Maine Farmer.

AGRICULTURE, MECHANIC ARTS, LITERATURE, NEWS, &C.

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Maine Farmer.

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S. L. BOARDMAN, Editor.

Our Home, our Country and our Brother Man.

Dairying in Maine.

First Article.

Maine has for many years maintained a fair reputation for its dairy products, being more noted for the amount than for its superior quality. The census returns for 1870 will very soon, we suppose, become available for purposes of comparison and information—but until they are presented to the public we must rely upon the returns of 1860 and those of 1850, which will serve our present purpose very well. In 1850 Maine produced 8,243,811 pounds of butter, and 2,434,454 pounds of cheese, and in 1860 was second in rank of the New England States, being exceeded only by Vermont, which produced 15,000,359 pounds, while of cheese it yielded less than either Massachusetts, Connecticut or New Hampshire—the yield of the latter being respectively, 5,294,090; 3,898,411, and 2,232,092, pounds for the several States. Throughout the State, and generally throughout New England, the period between 1850 and 1860 shows a great reduction in the amount of cheese produced, owing, no doubt, to the increased labor and expense of making it as compared with butter. The past decade, however, as the returns of 1870 will undoubtedly show, has witnessed considerable change in this particular, especially in the States of Massachusetts, Connecticut and Vermont, where the factory system of cheese making has been introduced and successfully practiced for several years. In 1867—we have no later returns at hand—Vermont had nine, and Massachusetts ten cheese factories, the former consuming the milk of 4880 and the latter 3417 cows. But to go back again for a moment to the census of 1860. Penobscot county returned the greatest amount of butter of any one county, viz: 1,231,660 pounds. Kennebec standing second with 1,228,721 pounds, York third with 1,106,686 pounds, and Cumberland fourth with 1,062,512 pounds. Oxford county produced the most cheese, 294,328 pounds; Androscoggin next, 250,103; Kennebec third, 223,654, and Somerset fourth, 214,438 pounds. These several counties compare very well with counties in Vermont and New Hamphire; and we presume the census returns of 1870 will not show a very large increase of the products. If anything, an advance may be expected in the production of cheese in certain sections, and in one or two counties we shall expect to see reported an increase of butter—but not sufficient in either to materialy affect the gross amounts given at the commencement of this article. In the New England States the annual production of butter is over sixteen pounds to each person. So much for the statistics, which though not recent, may be set down as reliable, and as furnishing an approximation of the amount of butter and cheese produced at present. They show also the best dairy regions of our State.

Maine butter has not the celebrity which Vermont butter has, nor has Maine cheese the reputation of New York cheese. Our dairy products find home markets, consequently their reputation is limited. Still, Livermore cheese is well known in Augusta and Portland markets, and commands a fancy price, while the butter from the best dairies of Kennebec, Somerset and Cumberland counties, is almost always engaged before it is made. Yet notwithstanding this, Maine does not produce the butter and cheese which she consumes. New York cheese is found in almost every country store, and last fall a larger quantity than usual of New York and Vermont butter was brought into the State. The season, we are aware was an unfavorable one for the production of butter. Feed was short, and poor, and cows in many sections were not only obliged to drink impure water, but actually suffered from the want of it. The effects of this were plainly manifest in the butter produced, and a great amount of poor butter was in market.

With the new interest which has recently been manifested in dairying among us, we have thought that two or three articles showing the advantages of dairy farming over some other branches, the adaptibility of our State as a dairy region, and the details of the factory system of butter and cheese manufacture, obtained from sources of the best authority—would serve a good purpose with our readers. We shall endeavor to present this information in succeeding issues of our journal.

Editorial Notes.

In our article upon the State Agricultural Society, in last week's issue, the types made us say, "the entire premium list amounted to $8159.00," one half of which, $1579.50 had been paid. It should have been, $3159.00 as the total amount, and our readers will please make the correction.

A reader at South Vassalboro', wishes the members of the Farmers' Clubs to give their experience concerning the durability of different kinds of shingles for covering roofs, with the best angle and position of roof to secure the same. He also believes the general subject for erecting, repairing and re-modeling farm buildings, would be both interesting and profitable. We believe so, too, and think the subject one that should be discussed now, as many are doubtless contemplating such improvements with the opening spring. There are experienced builders and carpenters in most villages whose ideas and knowledge upon the matter would be useful, and Clubs would do a good thing by inviting such to read essays or devote a half hour to talking of such matters. There is need that farmers know more about this subject, and the Club is just the place to learn it.

We thank our correspondent at Bucksport, who was a subscriber to the first volume of the FARMER, for his kind expressions. It is pleasant to receive the approval of those who have so long been supporters of the agricultural press, and who can testify by actual experiience to the progress of forty years. Especially do we thank him for his compliments of our present full grown sheet, which is, each week, a "welcome visitor" to his home.

One of our subscribers at Jefferson, "who has driven an ox team ten winters on the Penobscot and Union rivers," gives his views of the best sled tongue as follows: "I prefer a stick which has a natural cretch, for making a sled tongue. My objection to a flat tongue, is, that I cannot keep it keyed in sufficiently strong to rack my sled, especially if the sled and load be heavy. As regards the amount of purchase on a split tongue, I contend there is no difference, provided the flat tongue will hold the same strain."

Reports of Agricultural Colleges.

We gather from the recent reports of several agricultural colleges, some interesting facts regarding the progress of these institutions during the year 1870.

Maine.

In our recent notes of a visit to this institution, we presented from personal observation nearly all the facts which the Trustees have embodied in their annual report, and therefore it is not neccessary that we refer to it at any length here. Of the last appropriation there is something over $6000 remaining in the hands of the Treasurer, which will be nearly sufficient for completing the new dormitory building. For the immediate wants of the college, the Trustees ask $1000 for furniture for boarding-house and dormitory; $10,000 for machine-shop with steam power, engine tools, &c.; $1000 for library and apparatus; $3000 for stock and farm implements, and $5000 for fully finishing work upon the new dormitory building, making a total of $20,000. The remarks of Mr. Johnson, upon the workings of the labor system, will be found in another column. Mr. Farrington—should he accept the position—will enter upon his duties as Farm Superintennent, in place of Mr. Johnson, resigned, in April next.

New Hampshire.

The "New Hampshire College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts," is connected with Dartmouth College, located at Hanover. Rev. Asa D. Smith, President of Dartmouth College is also president of the institution, and the Faculty, consisting of nine professors, are all members of the Faculty of Dartmouth. The Board of Trustees consists of nine, of whom a part are appointed by the Governor, and a part by the corporation of Dartmouth College. The course of study extends through three years, of two terms a year. The requisites for admission are 16 years of age, and familiarity with the studies pursued in the common schools in the State. During the first or junior year, all students pursue the same studies. At the beginning of the second year, they select either the special course of Agriculture or the Mechanic Arts, and thereafter do not change from one to the other without permission. A farm of 160 acres near the college building, has been secured (through the munificence of a private individual) but we do not learn that the labor system is introduced or that the farm has, as yet, much connection with college. There are twelve free scholarships, one for each Senatorial District, the incumbent to be nominated by the Senator for that District. Other students pay $30 per year for tuition, and other expenses make up a total of from $175 to $250 per annum. The catalogue for 1870—71 gives the total number of scholars as eleven, viz: Junior class, five; middle class, three; senior class, three. There being but eleven scholars, the institution having been incorporated in 1866, and there being twelve free scholarships, it would seem that the number of pupils should be much larger that it is.

Massachusetts.

The seventh annual report of the Massachusetts Agricultural College is a document of much interest, aside from the direct information it gives of the progress of the institution for the year. A house for the Farm Superintendent has been built, at a cost of 4000, a new barn at a cost of $10,000, and more than $20,000 have been expended for permanent improvements in the agricultural department by which facilities for instruction have been greatly increased. There are upon the farm four thoroughbred Short Horns, three Devons, two Ayrshires and three Jerseys, besides about forty natives, mostly cows. The course of study occupies four years, and is arranged with special reference to the wants of young men who design to become farmers or gardeners—it being not an agricultural and mechanical college, as many similar institutions are in other States—but an agricultural college purely; a portion of the funds from the National grant having been given to the Institute of Technology. The farm consists of 384 acres. The total expenditure for real estate, improvements and apparatus has been about $225,000, and the cash fund for the maintenance of the institution is about $150,000. During the year 1870, 119 students have been in attendance. The State Board of Agriculture comprises the Board of Overseers of the College. The faculty consists of a President, six resident professors, and eleven non-resident lecturers. The names of forty individual donors to the institution are given, the gifts comprising money, books, neat stock, seeds, trees, plants, &c. We find acknowledgements as follows: cash, $2500; books for the library, 400 volumes; animals, 5; plants and trees, 600; implements, 2, &c., &c. The Trustees ask of the Legislature an appropriation of $100,000. W. S. Clarke, President, Amherst.

Michigan.

We have frequently spoken of this successful institution, the Presicent, of which is a Maine man, and are much pleased to note its continued prosperity, and that it is firmly established in the good will of the people of that State. The only information of its progress in 1870 comes to us in the State Legislative Journal, the annual report of the college not having been issued. A new hall has been erected at a cost of over $34,000, and during the year it has received from the Congressional grant the sum of $2,779.89, being the first income from that source it has had—having been previously supported entirely by the State. Its faculty consists of a President and seven professors. The number of students in 1870 was 132, of which 10 were young ladies, and many applications for ladies were rejected for lack of proper accommodations. They studied chemistry, botany, horticulture, floriculture, trigonometry, surveying, entomology, book-keeping and other branches. The President says: "Their progress in study was rapid and their improvement marked. Work was furnished them when it could be; they prepared seed for the ground, cut potatoes, transplanted tomatoes and flowering plants, pruned shrubbery, gathered small fruit, did some work in the green-house, and many other kinds of work. The experiment of having women as students, has worked so successfully that there would be no hesitation in admitting them if there were a hall for them." Seven of its graduates are connected as officers with Agricultural Colleges in various States, and the committee say "its usefulness as an educational institution has nearly doubled since 1869." The Legislative committee on the college have reported a bill for its support in 1871, and in addition a sum sufficient to erect a new chemical laboratory (estimated at $10,000), the report being accepted and the committee discharged. The President is Mr. T. C. Abbott, the location Lansing. Sanford Howard, Esq., —another Maine man, by the way—is Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

Mention of two or three similar institutions must be deferred until another week.

Reply to Queries.

Hungarian Grass.

I wish to inquire if you know anything about the value of Hungarian grass for stock. Would it not be as good or better to sow for fodder than corn? If you or any of the readers of the FARMER can inform me where the seed can obtained and at what price you will confer a favor on a subscriber.

New Vineyard H. G. FULLER.

A few years since there was a great deal of talk about the value of Hungarian grass as a forage crop, and quite extravagant stories were told of the remarkable yield in forage and seed obtained from an acre. It is sometimes called millet, and belongs to the same order (Pancum) as the common barn-grass which it somewhat resembles. We should by all means prefer to grow corn for a supplementary fodder crop, as it leaves the soil cleaner, and is more relished by stock, the rough or bristly sheathes of the grass rendering it somewhat objectionable. The seed can be procured of any of the leading seedsmen, but we are unable to give the price.

Use of Cotton Seed Meal.

Can any of your readers tell me whether cotton-seed meal, fed to cows regularly and in reasonable quantity, has, or ever will prove injurious? Has anybody in this State had sufficient experience in the above feed to determine therefrom any definite results? It is well known that Dr. Geo. B. Loring, two years ago at the Farmers' Convention, spoke decidedly against the use of cotton-seed meal, and, being a man high in authority (though not necessarily always correct or to be followed implicitly) his words were calculated to leave an erroneous impression upon the public mind. Whether his opinion was formed from his single disastrous experiment upon his own herd of cows, or from broader results, I know not. It may be fairly surmised, however, that his conclusions were drawn from the former ground rather that the latter. A.

Hallowell.

Presenting this subject to the attention of our readers—some of whom have had experience in the use of cotton-seed cake—we wish to remark that so far as we can learn, the unfavorable reports of its value come from those who have been injudicious in its use, that is, who have given it in too large quantities when first commencing to feed it to stock. It is used to a very large extent by English farmers, and in many instances the rental value of the land has more than doubled in consequence of feeding it to stock, due to the fact that the manure produced from it is rich in nitrogenous compounds, a large proportion of which is not assimilated by the animal system. We should like to hear from our correspondents who have fed it. What is Mr. Colburn's recent experience?

Seeding a Meadow.

I would like to inquire through the columns of your paper what kind of grass seed to sow on a meadow burnt over this last summer. If no grass seed is sown, it will come into blue joint first, then meadow grass. I have sown on a portion burnt three years ago, what is here called foul meadow. It weighs 12 lbs. to the bushel; also another kind, the seed of which resembles herds grass, only that it is larger with longer stalk. Both make very good fodder for cattle, but neither kind do what they are said to do—bind out any meadow grass, or rather flat grass. I have received better crops where nothing was sown. So far the wild grass does best. F. PARTRIDGE.

Prospect.

The reason why meadow grass does best—we presume it is low meadow—is because of imperfect drainage. The better cultivated grasses will not thrive upon soil in which is an excessive amount of moisture. The first step towards the real improvement of your meadow is in draining or ditching it; you will then find that the finer and better grasses will not only grow, but crowd out the natural growth. Even herds-grass, will grow well upon thoroughly drained low land. Ridding your meadow soil of superfluous moisture, sow upon the places where brush heaps have been burnt off, herds-grass, red top and foul meadow seed, mixed in equal proportions.

What a Little Boy has Done.

There is an old adage which says that "Little folks should be seen and not heard;" but we are willing to break over it as often as we can hear such accounts as the following, and know our readers will not blame us for it, either. It comes from Frankie L. Paine, of Bean's Corner, who states his age in his letter, and we are going to let him tell his story in our largest type: "Last spring father gave me some land, and told me I should have all I could raise on it. I harvested two bushels of nice shelled corn; one bushel of yellow-eyed beans; and five bushels of potatoes. I am nine years old, Do you think any little boy that reads the FARMER has done any better?" We very much doubt if any one has; but should such be the case, or should any little boy, stimulated by the above, try his hand at farming "on his own hook," the coming season, we will promise to print his story, in as big letters as we have that of Frankie. Who will imitate him?

New England Agricultural Society.

At the annual meeting of the Society, recently held in Boston, Hon. Geo. B. Loring and Hon. Danial Needham, were unanimously re-elected to the respective position of President and Secretary, which they have severally filled with so much acceptance from the organization of the Society. The report of the Treasurer shew $3,095.75 as the cash balance in the treasury. Hon. Thomas S. Lang of this city is the Vice President from Maine, with the following members of the Board of Trustees, S. L. Goodale, Saco; Columbus Steward, North Anson; Seth Scammon, Scarboro'. Calvin Chamberlain, Foxcroft; J. F. Anderson, South Windham; Geo. W. Ricker, Portland; Israel B. Norcross, Charleston; Asa Smith, Mattawamkeag; Samuel Wasson, Ellsworth.

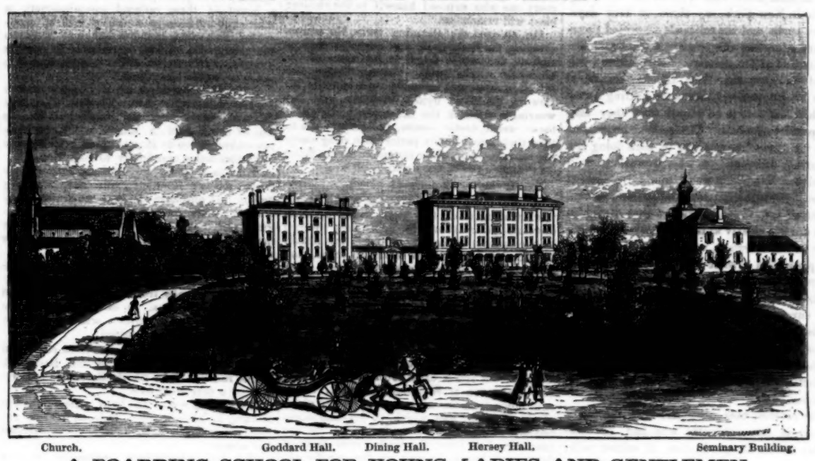
Aid to Farmers' Clubs.

The *Prairie Farmer*, contains the following: "In the State of Maine each county agricultural society appropriates one-fourth of the money it receives from the State treasury in organizing and supporting Farmers' Clubs. At the late meeting of the State Board of Agriculture it was reported by a large number of delegates that the practice was resulting in great good, and a resolution to continue it was passed. We believe this to be a very judicious practice and far better than appropriating the whole sum for the support of annual exhibitions. Is there not some way by which this example can be followed at the West?"

Right Sort of Premiums.

The Iowa State Agricultural Society, offers the following premiums: For the best ten acres of artificial timber, $1000, payable in 1881; for the best cultivated farm, $500, payable in five years; for the best five acres of orchard, $250, payable in eight years. This is the right sort of encouragement, and we believe every State and county agricultural society should spend a portion of its money in the same way, and for similar objects. It would do more good than dividing it up into small sums, for premiums on common every day objects, and more real improvement would follow.

WESTBROOK SEMINARY.



Church. Goddard Hall. Dining Hall. Hersey Hall. Seminary Building.

A BOARDING SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

Organized A. D. 1831—Rev. J. C. Snow, A. M., Principal.

This institution is located in the pleasant village of Stevens Plains, 2½ miles from Portland. It has a full and experienced corps of teachers, is well supplied with philosophical and chemical apparatus, has a good cabinet of minerals, and offers superior boarding accommodations. The boarding halls are heated throughout by steam. Hersey Hall (exclusively for young ladies) is furnished with bathing rooms and all modern conveniences, making it, in every respect, a desirable school home. The Spring term of 14 weeks will open *Monday, March* 13. Board, including fuel and lights, $3 50 per week. Tuition from $5 50 to $8 50. For catalogue or further particulars, address the Principal.

Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

Transmission of Mechanical Power.

Another Method.

Besides the method of accomplishing this object by the use of endless wire rope, as explained in the former article, attention is now drawn to the remarkable facility and economy by which the same object can be effected, by apparatus for compressed air as a motive power.

This motive agent, compressed air, derives its force from its quality of elasticity, being in that respect precisely like steam, or any other elastic fluid. We fill a chest or reservoir (the upper spaces of a boiler) with steam, by applying heat to water beneath. By using strong confining pressure, we are able to make the elastic force of the steam a most effective motive power. We can fill chests or reservoirs with compressed air by forcing air into them, by means of outside pumping or forcing apparatus propelled by some independent machinery contrived for that purpose. This confined air, by means of its elasticity, can be used like steam, as a motive power, being led by proper pipes with cylinders, and worked by means of valves and exhaust pipes, on the two sides of a piston, producing motion available for useful purposes, precisely as in the case of the steam engine—though the latter has greater power.

Steam, as is well known, cannot ordinarily be carried very far from the boiler or reservoir to the place where it is to do its work, because of the unavoidable exposure to loss of heat, condensing it rapidly, in transit, by which its elasticity is also lost, of course. All have observed that the steam pipe heating from a boiler to a cylinder is often covered with felting or some other substance to save this exposure. In the case of compressed air, led through a pipe for any considerable distance from the reservoir to the working cylinder, we should necessarily suppose that there would be a great and constant loss of power by friction, and that on account of this difficulty the motive agent could not be very effective at such distances. There is however, a recent invention, as alleged, by which such a form is given to the inside of the tubes leading the compressed air, that this friction is almost entirely neutralized, and as would seem to be shown, by the test of gauges placed many hundreds of feet apart, reduced practically to nothing, so that there is no appreciable loss of power.

Mr. William A. Goodwin, a skillful and experienced engineer, long employed on railroad surveys and constructions in this State, and recently for some years lighthouse engineer, in charge of the lighthouse service for the First District, is now engaged in arrangements for bringing this invention, and compressed air machinery, into practical use. He has recently exhibited in Portland, where his headquarters now are, a temporary, but quite thoroughly adjusted apparatus, by which, from the force pump and air chest, on Union street, an iron tube was laid eastward to Exchange street, and thence by a circuit back again to the point of starting—a distance of many hundreds of feet—to the cylinder of a working engine. Two gauges placed at each end of this circuit, with pressures of forty, fifty and sixty pounds, and upwards showed no appreciable difference of elasticity, and indicated consequently, that there was no loss of effective power, in this long transmission.

Practically, the useful application of such apparatus may be, as in the case of the wire rope, to enable power to be *used in the most convenient places*—which in great numbers of instances, are not the places where the power is generated. Thus, upon many of our water powers suitable for a variety of smaller manufactures, a water wheel to carry the force pump being placed where the water fall is, all the rest of the apparatus by which this power, through the agency of compressed air is to be utilized, may be placed at any convenient distance; and by means of tubes branching in different directions (carried under ground usually, so as to be out of the way) such mechanical power can be carried to any part of a village, where mechanics and manufacturers may find it most convenient to have their buildings. Or in a city, a central steam engine being used to fill the air chest, and maintain a constant pressure, the power may be led off, in whatever direction, to points where it is to be used.

It is believed that mechanical power can be carried in this way, usefully and effectively, for a distance of miles. And where considerable distances should be attempted, it is evident that not even the wire rope method could be so conveniently used, as the compressed air; because the wire must be carried above ground in the open air, and be supported by intermediate stations and pulleys, while the air tubes, like gas pipes would be laid under ground, and that with very moderate excavation. It is evident that in special cases, this method of transmitting power must be found highly convenient and serviceable, even independent of the spiral contrivance, by which friction is reduced to a minimum. In some cases, where only a moderate power is required, the employer can afford to lose a large part of the original power, if by means of the special quality of that which remains, it is more useful to him than an equal amount of power derived in any other possible way. An interesting illustration is the case of the tunnel through Mont Cenis, between France and Italy. A large part of the work was, of course, to be done by drilling. This requires constant, but moderate power, which could be easily controlled and managed. The excavation was to be carried for miles through the heart of the mountain. Steam engines working in those depths would be highly undesirable, even if possible. The supply of fuel and of air to feed their fires would be very troublesome and costly, while they would constantly corrupt the air to be breathed by the laborers. The method of compressed air was resorted to. About the base of the mountain it was easy to find water powers. These were utilized for water wheels by which air was forced with compressors, and thence led, as a power, by iron tubes, far up the side of the mountain, far into the depths of the excavation, and there applied to drive the drilling machines—the air which escaped by the exhaust valves being precisely what was needed to be breathed by the workmen, and to supply the deterioration caused by the blasts with gunpowder.

It is much to be hoped that under Mr. Goodwin's arrangements, with the improvement referred to, this new mechanical agency may soon become usefully known in our State. P. B.

For the Maine Farmer.

Insects Injurious to Farm Stock--No. 5.

The Horse Bot-fly.

The insect or animal parasite which produces what is termed "bots" in horses, is the larvæ of the Horse Bot-fly, *Gastrophilus equi*, which is very common, being widely disseminated and well known.

The fly, or full-grown perfect insect, is about three-quarters of an inch long, very hairy, and of a whitish brown and brownish black color with jet black eyes and black dots on the wings. Their eggs are deposited during the summer from June to September and generally upon the hair on the inner side of the horses fore legs, though they are often found about the shoulders and on the ends of the mane. The egg adheres very firmly to the hair by a glutinous secretion which covers it when deposited. These eggs, or the larvæ, are taken into the horse's stomach by adhering to the tongue when licking or biting themselves, or their mates. The warmth and moisture hatches the egg, and the minute larvæ or "bot" attaches itself to the lining of the stomach, where they remain and grows to a full-sized "bot" varying from three-quarters to over an inch in length, and of a dirty white color, and are furnished with double rows of reddish spines upon each segment.

These remain in the horses stomach all winter, and get their growth in early summer, when they loosen their hold on the membrane of their stomach, pass through the intestines and fall to the earth with the voidings. They then enter the earth to a small depth, change to pupæ, in which they remain forty or fifty days, and then the full-sized fly or winged insect emerges ready to pair and deposite eggs, which shall go through the same changes as above enumerated.

It is still a disputed question whether or not "bots" injure horses, some writers claiming that they are very injurious, while others say they are harmless and even beneficial, but it is most reasonable to suppose they are injurious to some extent, and that a horse cannot be entirely healthy which is "full of bots," as the saying is.

The preventives are to prevent the entrance of the larvæ to the stomach by removing eggs from the legs, &c., and destroying them. Many drugs and doses are recommended to kill them or drive them out, but they are dangerous to use, and those that can be relied on kill the insect will be pretty likely to kill or injure the horse. Keep the horse in good health and flesh, and he will be able to withstand their attacks. In severe cases special medicines may be used with advantage, but should, if possible be given by the advice of a physician or veterinary surgeon. B.

For the Maine Farmer.

Indian Summer.

What, Indian Summer in the winter? Yes, Indian Summer in the winter. I do not know how it was "down east," or "out west:" but if any of the readers of the FARMER had been here on the last Friday and Saturday, 13th and 14th Jan., they could have seen what I call Indian Summer, sufficient to satisfy the most ardent admirer of that, the most charming phase of the most charming season of the year —"inspiring autumn."

I recollect of reading, many years ago, a theory to account for this singular atmospheric appearance, so characteristic of our autumnal season. The author, whoever he was, thinks this only one of a series of similar phenomena occurring at various periods during the year; and his opinion is that they occur when either the temperature or pressure of the atmosphere, or both, is at its maximum or minimum, and is about to change to the opposite extreme. The periods marked by those appearances are four—about the middle of January, about the middle of April, during the month of August, and at the last of October or beginning of November. The latter period is the only one which has received the name of Indian Summer. It appears that of these four periods, when a smoky, hazy atmosphere, is attended with a remarkable stillness, two commence about four or six weeks after the autumnal and vernal equinoxes; and again, two others at about the same time after the winter and summer solstices. During the spring of 1833, somewhere from the middle of April to near the middle of May, there occurred an instance of this kind. Among the more remarkable examples of its winter occurrence was in the winter of 1817 and 1818, and of 1842 and 1843.

Perhaps it may interest others, as it has me for many years past, to take special notice of the weather at these periods of the year, with a view to verify the above notions. From my own observations I am inclined to think them true. As for the name, I see no great harm in calling the same things by the same name, provided we are sure they are the same things. There may be some—lovers of old things and of old names—who might regard the application of the term Indian Summer, to other several periods of the year than the autumn, as a sort of sacrilege, (if I may so speak)—something in the way we old school boys regard the researches of modern travellers and modern critics, when they so ruthlessly destroy our beautiful things in Geography and History, (*See Maelstorm, Pochahontas' story, Upas and others*) by pronouncing them nothing but myths. G. W. G.

Cornish, Jan. 21, 1871.

For the Maine Farmer.

Small Fruit Culture.

This is the season when the farmer has leisure for meditation, and for laying plans for the future season's labor upon the soil. Let the plans be well matured, that when the time for labor comes we may push our operations with despatch. While laying plans how and where we may raise the largest crops of the cereals and root crops, do not forget that little patch which is, or should be devoted to small fruits. Do not say they will not pay for raising. Perhaps they will not pay much in dollars and cents, but they will richly pay as luxuries. They are very healthful if taken in small quantities.

How delicious those large, nice strawberries, coming just at the time when you are craving fresh fruit of some kind! Then the cherries, who can refuse those tempting delicacies? There is an increased attention given to apples, but let not all the attention be absorbed by this branch of fruit culture. Let a little space be devoted to the culture of the small fruits, and you will not regret it when you see the fruit upon your table.

How much we may add to the enjoyments of life by taking pains with the *little* surroundings of our homes. When I see a farm house without any of these little shrubs and trees growing around it, an undefinable feeling of loneliness comes over me, and I think, how much real onjoyment are its inmates losing by paying no attention to fruit culture.

Many urge as an excuse for their neglect, that it takes so much time they cannot plant and care for any such thing—not even a bed of strawberries. It takes only a few leisure hours occasionally to do your part toward insuring a good crop. I have about two and a half square rods in my bed, and from this, last season, notwithstanding the drought, I took fifty quarts of as nice, large berries as one would wish to see. I measured several that were four and one-eighth inches in circumference. Mine are of the Wilson variety. Don't forget to mulch, as this keeps the weeds down and lessens the labor of cultivating. O. E. S.

For the Maine Farmer.

Agricultural Intelligence.

Premium Crops in Washington County.

The following are the crops on which premiums were awarded by the Washington County Agricultural Society in 1870:

To John W. Porter, for one acre and 66 rods of Norway oats, sown May 2d, on ground broke up in fall of 1869; a little dressing put on the poorest spots; raised forty-nine bushels, equal to 34½ bushels per acre. Thomas Robinson reports 35 bushels to the acre. Merrill Sprague 32, and George Matherson 31 bushels to the acre, but no statement given of the kind of soil, or their method of raising. James Owen, Jr., reports 5½ bushels peas from ¼ acre. George O. Lincoln 8, and Otis Lincoln, Jr., 7 bushels from ¼ acre respectively. Ira P. Allen reports 83 bushels White Bluenose potatoes from ¼ acre. Land plowed in the fall of 1868 for first time, and sowed with oats without dressing in 1869. In the spring of 1870 ground plowed and harrowed, and manured with compost of barn and muck mixed together; crop hoed once. Leonard Fisher reports 60 barrels Jackson White potatoes from 105 rods, equal to 228 bushels to the acre. The potatoes were planted on deep, Lamy land, a part planted with beans and part sown with buckwheat the previous year. Five or six cords of barn manure spread on and plowed in, and two hundred pounds of phosphate put in the hills. The phosphate went over about two-thirds of the piece, and the rest planted without any other dressing. There was nearly one-third more potatoes where the phosphate was used, than on the other part. Geo. Matherson had 111¼ bushels; Thomas Robinson, 106, and James Owen Jr., 102½ bushels on one-half acre each, but no statement given.

Charlotte. LEONARD FISHER, Sec'y.

Benton Farmers' Club.

Some of the farmers of Benton have recently organized a farmers' club, to be called the Benton Farmers' Club, with the following officers: President, A. G. Clifford; Vice Presidents, Henry Eames, John B. Clifford; Secretary, J. L. True; Treasurer, W. K. Lunt. We propose to hold weekly meetings during the long evenings, and monthly meetings in spring and summer; and perhaps we shall want to correspond with our brother farmers in other sections from time to time, through the columns of your valuable paper. [Our columns are open for your reports.—ED.]

Very truly, J. L. TRUE.

Good Porkers.

Miles Peasley slaughtered a pig seven mos. fifteen days old, weighing 345 pounds. J. M. Grant of Stockton, slaughtered one seven mos. thirteen days old, weighing 343 pounds. M. R. Staples one seven months, 330 pounds; A. M. Mathews one 320 pounds. Whole litter of ten overrun 320 pounds each. The old sow raised four litters of pigs and, dressed 523 lbs. She was one-half blood Chester.

Prospect. FREEMAN PARTRIDGE.

Penobscot Centre Agricultural Society.

At the annual meeting of the Penobscot Central Agricultural Society holden at East Corinth, Jan. 11, 1871, Benj. Ball was chosen President; C. D. Chapman, Secretary and Treasurer; J. B. Norcross, John Morrison, Ambrose Arnold, Trustees for the ensuing year. C. D. C.

Corinth.

Another Good Pig.

John Brooks of Robbinston, slaughtered a pig last week, five months old, which weighed when dressed 325 pounds. Who can beat that?

Robbinston. J. B.

New Gloucester Farmers' Club.

A Farmers' Club was organized at Fogg's Corner, New Gloucester on Wednesday evening, Feb. 1st. with good prospects for success. The following are the officers: Wm. L. Shurtleff, President; L. C. Curtis, Sullivan Hackett, Vice President; Jacob Merrill, Secretray.

JACOB MERRILL, Secretary.

The Board at Lincoln.

The No. Penobscot Ag'l Society has invited the Board of Agriculture to hold its next meeting at Lincoln. C.

For the Maine Farmer.

Meteorological Observations.

A meteorological record of the weather, &c., for the month of January 1871:

	Sunrise	1 P.M.	Sunset	Mean	
Mean of month,	11	20½	19	17	
Maximum,	38	45	44	42	16th.
Minimum,	-17	-9	-8	-11	23d.

Eight days north and northeast wind during the month; two days east and southeast; fourteen days west and northwest—prevailing wind northwest. Mean warmest day, 10th, 42 deg.; mean coldest day, 33d, 11 deg. below zero. Mean of Jan. for seventeen years, 17¼ deg.; so the past Jan. was ¼ deg. colder than the average. Mean of Jan, 1870, 25½ deg.; 1871, 17 deg., or 8½ deg. colder than last year. Warmest Jan. in seventeen years, 1863. 26 deg.; coldest, 1861, 11½ deg. Snowfall for the manth, 10 inches. Month very little colder than the average; from the 22d to 29th, inclusive, very cold—colder than for some years. Month rather broken with sudden changes, but little snow fell, very little good sleighing.

Yours truly, J. F. BLAKE.

Winterport, Feb. 3, 1871

Woman's Department.

For the Maine Farmer.

Letter from "Ida Gertrude."

I noticed in the FARMER of Dec. 24, a complaint from "Georgie" of North Raymond, about too expensive receipts; and wishing for some good nice cheap ones. Well, Georgie, I fully agree with you in your complaints, although the receipts found in the FARMER are uncommonly good, yet such receipts as usually appear in print are far too expensive for us poor farmers, and as I claim the honorable title of a *farmer's wife*, I too would like some that are nice, cheap and convenient, easily got up—any kind that are ever used at a farmer's table, or for any farm wife's purpose. Perhaps I am different in my ways from many, for I think if farmers and their wives did not subsist on something besides eggs, sugar and brandy, or the usual ingredients found in rich cakes, that some of the healthy, robust farmers and their children would soon be minus. I am one who does not think much of bringing up children on tea, coffee and rich cake; but give coarse, easily digested and healthy food, and enough of it, with good warm clothes and boots, and then let them romp, laugh and grow fat. They can be just as graceful, say "yes'm, "if you please," and "thank you," just as easily as if they were delicate, sickly, pale children, with not half enough good coarse, wholesome food, warm clothes, pure air and sunshine; bringing sunshine into their hearts and faces, which they carry with them wherever they go. But perhaps some will say, let every one raise their own children to suit themselves; and so I will say, only be sure and be suited with the proper way.

But as this is my first attempt at writing for the FARMER, (which I have of late become quite interested in,) and I don't know as what I have written will be allowed in print, I will also say to Georgie, I have a few cheap receipts which will do very well for a "farmer's company table," and are not unhealthy, and if they are deemed worthy a place in the FARMER, I hope they may meet your eye and be of use to you; but if you have the same and they are of no use, why please accept the good motive in sending them, and please let me have through the FARMER some of your every day receipts, that we may help each other and thereby do good. I would also like some receipts for coloring. As it is a good time to work up rags into rugs and carpets, I would like to know how to get some pretty colors. I have some very good receipts now, but perhaps some one else has something better, and I should be very glad to have it—especially a nice scarlet, which I have no receipt for.

Lemon Cake.

1¼ cups of sugar, 1 cup sweet milk, 1 egg, 1 teaspoon cream of tartar, ½ teaspoon soda, a piece of butter as large as an egg, one pint of flour, and lemon as you like, or about 1 teaspoonful. Bake in common tin plates.

Apple Cake--Very good.

2 cups dried apples, soaked over night, then (if they are not sliced apples) chopped, (or if they are sliced, all the better, as they resemble citron in cake) and boiled in 2 cups of molasses, 1½ hours; then add ½cup butter, stirring it till the butter is melted; then set it off till almost cold, then add ½ cup sugar, two eggs well beaten, 1 spoonful soda, 2 cups buttermilk, all kinds of spice; make stiff as loaf cake.

Nice Soft Gingerbread.

1½ cups molasses, 1 cup sour cream, 1 cup sweet milk, 1 egg, 1 spoonful ginger, and the same of soda; mix about as thick as fritters.

Litchfield. IDA GERTRUDE.

From our Correspondents.

A Commendation.

Now that my pen is in hand I wish to tell you how much we prize your valuable paper. My husband has taken the FARMER nineteen years, with the exception of three months; and we can find no paper that will equal it. I found much difficulty in

Removing Grease Spots

from my husband's clothes, until I used alcohol for that purpose. Saturate the spots with alcohol, then sponge them vigorously with a dry sponge, and the spots will disappear. I have found alcohol excellent in cleaning coat collars, as it does not change colors.

Bean's Corner. MRS. P.

To Use Dry Bread.

Too many are accustomed to waste pieces of dry bread. I will send you a receipt

To use Dry Bread. Cut up the bread, tie it up in a cloth, putting in with the bread some raisins or sliced apple, (I prefer the apple). Put it into water that boils, and boil one-half hour. Prepare sauce as for minute pudding. MORE ANON.

Two Good Receipts.

As you have a column devoted to woman's correspondence; I will send you the following receipts which I use and can recommend. I have not seen them in the FARMER.

Sponge Cake. One cup of sugar, three eggs, two cups of flour, one teaspoonful of cream tartar, half teaspoonful of soda. Nutmeg or lemon.

Doughnuts. One cup of sugar, one cup of sour milk, one-half cup of cream, one teaspoonful of soda. L. D.

A Query.

Will some one who knows, tell us what effect Linseed oil has on leather, if injurious or otherwise? Also that produced by an application of rosin and tallow. Will it turn water without causing the leather to crack?

Kennebunk. A. A. LEAVITT.

Household Hints.

(SELECTED FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.)

A Cement withstanding Water, Acids, &c.

Simple shellac, made up into sticks of the size of a lead-pencil, is commonly sold for such cement. The objects to be cemented are first warmed till they melt the shellac brought in contact with them. This is very good to cement broken glass, porcelain, etc., especially as the objects are again ready for use immediately when cold; but it is not adapted for flexible objects, as it cracks; and also will not withstand heat or alcohol.

Farmers' Pudding.

Boil one quart of milk. While boiling, stir in one teacup of Indian meal carefully. Pare and slice five or six apples. Take one cup of brown sugar, and a piece of butter the size of an egg. Mix well, and bake in a buttered dish one hour.

Tarts.

Lemon butter is excellent for tarts. It is made as follows: One pound of pulverized white sugar, whites of six eggs and yolks of two, three lemons, including grated rind and juice. Cook twenty minutes over a slow fire, stirring all the while.

Rhode Island Brown Bread.

One quart Indian meal, one pint rye flour, a small cup of molasses, one teaspoonful each of saleratus and salt, with hot water thin it enough to pour; bake three hours.

A Codfish Dinner.

The codfish should first be soaked in cold water, changing the water every few hours until it is fresh enough. It should not be entirely freshened, but left just salt enough to be palatable. It is then put into a kettle, covered with water, and brought up to the boiling point, but not boiled Let it simmer gently for fifteen or twenty minutes, and it is ready to serve. As accompaniments to the fish, there are, of course, potatoes, and many add plain boiled beets, parsnips and carrots, and hard-boiled eggs. We have sometimes seen small bits of salt pork fried crisp and served with some of the pork fat. The proper sauce is butter, which is sometimes simply melted, but more usually made into a sauce with flour and water. They may

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, February 18, 1871.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

$2.00 in advance, or $2.50 if not paid within Three Months of the date of Subscription.

☞All payments made by subscribers will be credited on the yellow slips attached to their papers. The printed date in connection with the subscriber's name will show the time to which he has paid, and will constitute, in all cases, a valid receipt for money's remitted by him.

☞A subscriber desiring to change the post office direction of his paper must communicate to us the *name of the office to which it has been previously sent*, otherwise we shall be unable to comply with his request,

Collectors' Notices.

Mr. S. N. TABER will visit Kennebec County during the months of February and March.

Mr. V. DARLING will canvass Penobscot County during the months of February and March.

Our Disputes with Great Britain.

The Alabama claims, of which everybody, except those directly interested, are well tired already, are again to be discussed with a view to their settlement, together with the fishery question, and some other questions now at issue between the two nations.

The formal advances came from England in the shape of a proposition to appoint a Joint High Commission, composed of members named by each government to sit in Washington, to discuss the fishery question and other matters affecting the relations of the United States to the British North American possessions. Our government answers favorably, but desires also to submit the Alabama claims to the same commission. To this the British government assents, with the proviso that all other claims of citizens of either nation, growing out of our recent civil war, be also included. Finally our government assents to this proposition, limiting the claims to be discussed to such as the governments themselves shall present.

It is not to be supposed that this matter was started without a previous informal discussion, in which all the main points were settled.

The commission is to consist of ten members, five appointed by each government. Two of the British Commissioners are Canadians. Our own are Secretary Fish; Justice Nelson of New York; Robert C. Schenck, minister to England; E. R. Hoar, late Attorney General; and Senator Williams of Oregon.

This decided step toward an adjustment of the causes of irritation between the two nations will be hailed with joy by Americans generally, not only those whose property was destroyed by rebel cruisers, and who have been forced to wait so many years for the expected compensation, but by all who have in their hearts the sentiment of peace and good will towards their fellowmen. Of this class, we hope are the majority of Americans, despite the constant exertions of politicians of the Butler school to persuade their countrymen that the first and great duty of every American is to hate England. Quite enough of this anti-English spirit we have received as a bequest from the patriots of Lexington and Bunker Hill. Even such a well-balanced man as John Quincy Adams the younger, acknowledges that on meeting an Englishman, his first inclination is to fly at his throat. Such a feeling is but natural to poor human nature, that is ever seeking to visit upon the children the punishment due to the iniquity of the fathers. But philanthropy teaches a better way—teaches us to look upon a foreigner as but a man like ourselves, to be judged by his individual acts, some of them good and some of them bad like our own; in short, as our brother.

The published correspondence between Secretary Fish and Mr. Motley in reference to the removal of the latter from his post as minister to England showed the world that President Grant was far more anxious than had been supposed to allay the irritation naturally resulting from the acts that gave rise to the Alabama claims, and it is not likely that he will insist upon any such absurd terms as a formal apology from Great Britain for her bearing towards us during the civil war. The payment of damages is a more substantial acknowledgment that she was in the wrong.

It is reported that the commission will not occupy itself with individual cases, but will lay down the rules by which all the claims for money are to be adjusted, and that they will not remain in session over two months.

PORTLAND & KENNEBEC RAILROAD CO. The annual meeting of the Portland and Kennebec Railroad Company was held in Portland on Monday last. The board of Directors was re-elected, as follows: Richard D. Rice and Darius Alden of Augusta; John B. Brown, George F. Shepley and H. N. Jose of Portland; Wm. D. Swett and George M. Patten of Bath; Philander Coburn of Skowhegan; N. M. Whitmore of Gardiner.

The report of the Directors shows satisfactory results notwithstanding the severe losses by fire and flood during the past year. The freshet in February, 1870, was especially disastrous, carrying away the bridge at Augusta, which has been replaced by an elegant and durable structure of iron at a cost of $119,685.

Extensive repairs have been made along the whole line, and valuable additions have been made to the rolling stock. The trains during the year have been run 416,955 miles, divided as follows: Passenger trains, 180,996; freight, 201,080; gravel and wood, 34,879, at a cost of $1 15 per mile, being an increase of 62,199 miles run over last year, and at a cost of two cents more per mile than last year. Have transported 362,270 passengers, which is equal to 9,083, 844 for one mile each, and an average of 3¼ cents per mile for each passenger. The average distance traveled per passenger has been 22 6-10 miles. The earnings from passengers per mile run has been $1 55. Have carried 177,618 10-100 tons of freight, equal to 7,724,847 tons for one mile, at an average of 4½ cents per ton per mile.

The total earnings of the road were $645,-064.05, and the total running expenses, $479,-541.92. The city and town loans issued twenty years ago, in aid of the Kennebec and Portland Railroad Company, to the amount of $800,000, matured on the first day of November last. Six hundred and fifteen thousand seven hundred dollars of this loan have already been paid and cancelled by this Company, and the funds have been provided to pay the balance on presentation.

This road, which was leased last May to the Maine Central Railroad Company, has been operated since then by the latter company though for convenience, the old organization and separate accounts have been kept up to the close of 1870. Since the 1st of January the two companies have been operated practically as one, the Portland and Kennebec, however, continuing its organization, for the purpose of preserving its corporate existence.

The report, in conclusion, refers to the increasing and intrinsic value of the road, notwithstanding the unprecedented and inevitable disasters of the past year, and predicts that in its new relations it will prove more efficient and serviceable than ever in developing the resources of the State, more convenient and serviceable to the people, and more valuable to the stockholders.

At a meeting of the Directors the following officers were re-elected: Hon. R. D. Rice, President; J. S. Cushing, Clerk and Treasurer; Levi L. Lincoln, Superintendent; J. W. Clapp, General Ticket Agent; A. Hersey, General Freight Agent, all of Augusta.

☞The enterprising farmers of East Winthrop are moving in the matter of establishing a Cheese Factory at that place. A meeting was held on Monday evening last, at which a committee was appointed to procure information upon the subject which will be presented at an adjourned meeting to be held on Monday evening next, Feb. 20th. Let the dairy farmers of that section turn out in good numbers.

ABOUT NORWAY. The lecture on Norway by W. W. Thomas, Esq., of Portland, at the Free Baptist church in this city on Thursday evening of last week, was listened to by a very appreciative audience. Mr. Thomas depicted in graphic style the scenery and other natural features of Norway, as well as the character and customs of her people.

The greater part of Norway is an elevated table-land, cold and barren, aproaching close to the sea, leaving here and there a narrow coast line or a ravine rent in by cliffs that rise steeply to a great hight, sometimes 5000 feet. In these ravines dwell the greater portion of Norway's 1,200,000 people. They are mostly engaged in the fisheries, which alone render a great part of the country inhabitable. The dwellers on the table land are mostly graziers, sufficient grass growing there to subsist herds of cattle, which must, nevertheless, be housed during a greater part of the year, for the winters are nine months long. Only the hardiest of grains can be grown. In Northern Norway there is a single winter's night three months' long, and snow lies upon the ground the year round.

The Norwegians are a simple, hospitable race; intelligent and industrious, quiet to a fault in their outward bearing, averse to all jollity. They are strongly attached to their homes and country, and lovers of liberty everywhere.

Norway is the finest kingdom in the world, and next to Switzerland the freest kingdom in Europe. All titles have been abrogated. A congress, elected almost by universal suffrage, makes their laws, and has authority over the veto of the king himself.

Norway is under the same king as Sweden, whose people we are now trying with flattering prospects to induce to immigrate to our State, instead of going to the West. The languages of the two countries are very similar, but in this respect Norway and Denmark are much closer related, in fact, the literary language of Norway is identical with Danish. The Danes, Swedes, Norwegians and Icelanders form the Scandinavian race.

☞We learn that E. C. Allen & Co. the enterprising publishers of the *People's Literary Companion*, have purchased of the Williams heirs the estate on the east side of Water street, upon which the building occupied by C. K. Partridge, apothecary, and others, was standing at the time of the great fire in 1865. The lot has lain unimproved until the present time. It is the intention of the purchasers to erect immediately an elegant four-story building of brick and granite, 49 feet front and 60 in depth, to accommodate their large and increasing publishing business. The basement will be used for a press-room the storage of paper &c.; the first story for a mailing room and publication office, and the three stories above for composing rooms, bookbindery and the various other departments of the business of the firm. The building will be an ornament to the city, and a monument of the marvelous growth and success of an enterprise, the conception and progress of which have been noted with so much wonder and gratification by the entire community.

☞The divorce trial in the case of N. J. Miller and wife, which has excited so much interest in the polite circles of Portland for several weeks past, was brought to a close on Saturday last by a verdict in favor of the plaintiff. The case for the respondent was very skilfully managed, the leading counsel, Hon. Jos. Baker of this city, making an argument in his behalf which has been pronounced by legal gentlemen a masterpiece of ability and eloquence, but the public sentiment in favor of Mrs. Miller was too strong to be resisted, affecting the entire atmosphere of the court-room, including judge, jury, lawyers and spectators alike together. The question of alimony and the custody of the children will be determined by Judge Walton. Mr. Miller's counsel has filed exceptions and the case will go to the law court.

☞We are glad to hear that subscriptions have been obtained for the liquidation of the debt incurred by the South Parish Congregational church of this city, in the erection of their elegant church. The debt amounted to nearly $8,000, and the entire sum has been raised by the liberal contributions of members of the church. A similar good work was done last spring by the Winthrop Street Universalist Society, and thus two of our largest and costliest houses of worship, the building of which at a cost of nearly one hundred thousand dollars was a severe strain upon the resources of these parishes, have been happily redeemed from mortgage and debt. We hope soon to chronicle the successful efforts of other parishes in this city in the same direction.

MEETING OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY. The meeting of the Maine Historical Society, which takes place at the Court House this (Thursday) afternoon and evening promises to be one of unusual interest, and we bespeak a full attendance of our citizens, legislators, and others at all interested in the history and intellectual development of our State. Papers of general interest will be presented, and we understand J. H. Hackleton, Esq., of Bristol (old Pemaquid) will be present, who will give some account of recent interesting discoveries made in that locality. Ladies are cordially invited.

WE HAVE RECEIVED from Messrs. E. C. Allen & Co., publishers of the *People's Literary Companion*, a set of the Premium Books, which they offer as prizes for new subscribers to that journal. The volumes are, respectively:—"Driven to Sea," by Mrs. George Cuppes (12 mo. pp 382, illustrated), a good story for boys and girls; "Life of George Peabody", by Mrs. P. A. Hannaford, (12 mo., pp 308, illustrated) and "The Life and Writings of Charles Dickens," by the same author, (12 mo. pp 401, with a portrait)—each very neatly printed, on clear paper, and in attractive binding. Parties wishing to know upon what terms these volumes are forwarded as premiums, should address E. C. Allen & Co., Augusta, Maine, who will forward circulars of information.

☞The South Parish Congregational Society of this city will give a grand levee and fair at Granite Hall on Thursday and Friday evenings of this week. The entertainment will consist of Charades, Tableaux, Pantomimes, Art Gallery &c. A variety of fancy articles will be offered for sale. Miss Fanny Baker, the accomplished Soprano of the Society choir will sing on each evening assisted by other members of the choir.

☞R. M. Mansur, Dealer in Pianos, Organs, Music, etc., of this city, has laid upon our table, No. 14 of Howe's Musical Monthly just published, which contains eleven popular instrumental pieces, and ten songs, with piano accompaniments, the whole, common sheet music size and sent post paid upon receipt of 35 cents.

☞Mr. Charles Caldwell, son of Ex-mayor Caldwell of this city, for several years past an employe of the Central Pacific Railroad at Corinne, Utah Territory, is the champion skater of the place, carrying off the honors for dexterity and grace, over all competitors, as we learn from the Corinne papers.

☞Messrs. E. & C. Milliken of this city have contracted with Messrs. Pinkham & Wyman, for the building of a steam saw mill on Shepherd's Wharf in Hallowell, work on the same to be commenced immediately. The mill is to be 102½ feet by 60 and three stories in height.

☞The following patents have been issued, bearing date Feb. 7, to parties in this city. They were procured through R. M. Mansur's Patent Agency of this place, he being in company with a very experienced and efficient partner in Washington. Alfred Day, Assignor to himself and Francis Lyford, for improvement in Clothes Dryers. Robert C. Love, for improvement in Carpenters' Work-benches.

For the Maine Farmer.

Foot and Mouth Disease.

As your readers may be glad to learn the more interesting facts elicited at the meeting of the Cattle Commissioners of the several States, at Albany, on the 8th and 9th inst., I will say that it appeared that the disease in New England seems to be mostly under control, through the efforts of the commissioners and their assistants, and of town officers; and is spreading only where proper care is neglected. This is quite too frequent, however, as many make light of it, and some profess to think it only the old-fashioned "foul in the foot," which is a serious error. The consumption of beef, which in some towns has fallen off 90 per cent, is resumed to the extent of half or more of the present amount, under the assurance that all beef animals are faithfully inspected before slaughter. It does not appear, however, that any such inspection is enforced in New York, where it is most needed, for the reason that the yards at Albany are infected, and the cattle which are there rested and fed on their way from the West (a thousand or more daily), are liable to contract the disease, and to come down with it about the time they arrive in New York, say three or four days. These yards, and the railroads connected thereat, are, therefore effective for a wholesale dissemination of the malady. Efforts were instituted for procuring from the Legislature of New York power and means for putting a stop to this, and it is to be hoped that they may be speedily effectual. The popular impression that "Yorkers" have a way of both doing and enduring, different from what prevails in well-regulated Yankee towns, was corroborated rather than refuted. How the disease was introduced into this country and first disseminated did not clearly appear; plenty of knowledge probably exists, but most of it is only in the possession of some who have large private interests at stake, (in the reputation of costly herds of high-bred animals), or of the veterinary surgeons employed by the owners of such herds, and who are as close-mouthed as physicians are about disagreeable facts which come to their knowledge in the sick room, or priestly doctors, regarding the secrets of the confessional.

The severest case mentioned was that of a farmer in Massachusetts who had 39 cows highly fed for the production of winter milk, and ten fatting beasts. This farmer, although he lost by death only two or three, deemed his actual loss greater than if he had killed and buried every animal on his farm before being attacked; as he could, in such a case, restock his farm, and resume his milk business; and the injury to his beasts by loss of flesh, broken udders, lameness, and the care of treating them, he considered equal to their value at the outset—say, upward of $4000. But in the great majority of cases, this disease had been much lighter, and the total loss and damage was variously estimated at from not more than a tenth in the lightest, to a third or half in the case of herds more seriously affected. Plenty of evidence came out that the milk is dangerous to human and brute health. One man related of his own son, a lad of five years, that, by taking the milk of a cow, not then known to be affected, but which soon afterwards showed the disease, the mouth became lined with blisters, bad cracks appeared on the hands, and he was feverish and quite ill.

In Connecticut sheep had contracted the disease; and in New York dogs fed with the milk in some cases had it, and in some escaped the disease. The extremely contagious character of the malady, and the ease with which it is communicated, was abundantly shown; a single illustration here will suffice. A drover bought healthy cows in New York, and drove them homeward to Massachusetts, and sold on the way. At Albany they were in the yards, and contracted the disease, but did not show any signs of it, nor was the fact known to the drover, until his arrival at home. Several hours after these beasts had passed on a certain road, the owner of a herd living there drove his own herd a short distance over the same road; they never saw the affected beasts, but in four days they were all lame, and drooling at the mouth, and all the cows sold on the route, also carried the disease where they were taken.

There is need of the utmost vigilance, not only on the part of the State Cattle Commissioners, but of all interested in the growth and sale and use *of meat and milk* in Maine; and if we succeed in *keeping out* such a pest, there will be abundant reason for thankfulness.

S. L. G.

MUNICIPAL AID TO MANUFACTURING ENTERPRISES. The opinion of the Justices of the Supreme Court on the questions propounded by the House of Representatives relating to the constitutionality of extending municipal aid to manufacturing enterprises have been received by the Speaker, and that branch has ordered them to be printed.

A concurrent opinion signed by Judges Appleton, Walton and Danforth answers the questions in the negative.

Regarding the question to be substantially this: Can the Legislature authorize towns by gifts of money or loan of bonds to aid purely private enterprises in nowise connected with the public use or public exigencies. Judges Kent and Tapley submit a joint opinion in the negative.

Judge Tapley submits an independent opinion, in which he says in answer to the inquiries, they do not leave his mind entirely clear as to the information sought by them. If the aid contemplated relates to purely private enterprises in nowise connected with public uses or the public exigencies, he answers there may be cases where such aid may be legitimately authorized.

Judge Cutting submits an independent opinion, as follows:

"I have the honor to remark that I concur in the opinion drawn by C. J. Appleton, provided his conclusions are drawn from premises rightfully assumed, which are, whether the Legislature can constitutionally authorize towns to assist individuals or corporations to carry on individual enterprises for their own private benefit without regard to any public advantage.

If your inquiries were so restricted and limited, then it may be questionable, whether that 'solemn occasion' has occurred, which would require an opinion from this court; for I apprehend that no member, worthy of a seat in your House, would for a moment hesitate to answer the inquiries in the negative.

Yet I apprehend (although doubtingly) that your questions were intended to include such legislation as would embrace the public interest. If they would include the past as well as future enactments, we should not be required to settle by solemn decision questions, *ex parte*, where millions of dollars are involved, in the absence of the parties directly interested; and in cases, too, where no complaint has ever been made to us by any party directly or indirectly concerned.

Ordinarily courts are required to pass upon the constitutionality of acts already passed. If called upon before that time to express an opinion, they either become *quasi* lobby members, or component part of the Legislature, thereby abolishing an independent and coordinate branch of the Government.

In conclusion and in answer to your inquiries so construed as I have intimated, I reply that I shall consider all special or private acts to be constitutional, which have passed the ordeal of the House and Senate, been approved by the Governor, and accepted by the corporation assumed to be benefitted thereby, and which the Legislature considered to be of public advantage, until an aggrieved party in a court of law or equity appears, and shows to the contrary."

Judge Dickerson answers the several questions proposed at length in the negative by giving a separate opinion.

Judge Barrows also submits a separate opinion in the negative, giving his reasons at length.

☞Rev. G. W. Quinby will preach next Sabbath—morning and evening—in the Winthrop street Church. The subject of his lecture in the evening will be "Principle and Policy."

THE RAILROAD SLAUGHTER. We extract from the New York *World* of the 8th inst., the following graphic account of the frightful disaster which occurred on the Hudson River Railroad on Monday night, 6th inst., and involving the loss, as variously estimated of from twenty-five to fifty lives. Eighteen bodies have been recovered, and seventeen of these have been identified. The *World* says:—

The "Pacific express" train had acquired a national reputation. It was started soon after the completion of the great iron band which binds the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast, and its object was to convey passengers with the utmost speed over the first thousand miles of their journey from the metropolis of the East to the metropolis of the West. It surpassed all competitors in the endeavor to carry the busy, impatient travellers of the country over that distance in the shortest possible time, and for many months it bore the laurels for attaining the extraordinary achievement of conveying passengers from New York to Chicago in twenty-nine hours. The express left New York daily at 8 o'clock P. M., and there are very few persons comparatively, in the city who have not seen the long train of palace cars roll out from the depot at Thirtieth street and disappear on its long journey to the Garden City.

The night was clear and intensely cold, as every one who exposed himself to the chilling blast will remember.

On, on sped the steaming train, its wheels grinding the frosty rails and its shrill whistle, making the whole frigid valley resound the echoes for miles around. Cottage, hamlet, and town appeared and instantly receded from the view of the swift flying travellers. At last weariness overtook the dreamers gliding past these weird, arctic scenes, and they begun to turn their small family parlors into snug sleeping rooms. Meanwhile the never tiring horse drew them on with the fleetness of wings

INTO THE JAWS OF DEATH.

A great black shape, with one dazzling eye, was crawling along the track in the opposite direction, miles above the point now reached by the express train. That object was death. It wound its long form around a curve, and while passing under a dark bridge just after leaving the village of New Hamburg it prepared the weapon of destruction. The black oil-tanks were partially covered with a sheath of ice, and all the iron wheels and axles were brittle with the intense frost. One of the axles snapped and dropped down, so that it grated on the track, and dragged along over the sleepers. When it came to the trestle-bridge over the mouth of Wappinger's Creek, which runs down from the hills on the eastern shore of the Hudson, and which, at its confluence, becomes so broad and deep that it has the appearance of an inlet, the broken iron dropped down and began to root up the woodwork. Soon there was a sudden jerk, for the iron fangs had got a strong hold. The entire oil train stopped suddenly, and a portion of it toppled over upon the other track.

THE HORRIBLE COLLISION.

A flash of light danced upon the track, the shriek of a whistle was heard, and on came the Pacific express with its lightning dash. The engineer, peering out behind the reflector, saw a mass of black matter on the track before, and pulled the lever, sounding the signal for "down brakes." The brakes were applied, but not in time to check the terrible momentum of the train. It rushed into the face of the wreck, and the engineer's assistant, seeing death inevitable, sprung from his post, at the same time calling upon the engineer to follow. The engineer replied, "I'll go with my train" The locomotive plunged into the black wreck, there was a tremendous crash followed by death shrieks and then an explosion that was heard for miles, and next the devouring flames. The engine of the express train was the first to go down and bury itself and its driver in the swollen river beneath the ice. Then followed the coal-tender, the baggage-car with its contents, the heavily-laden express car, and lastly the first drawing-room, or sleeping car, with its freight of human lives. To bury them out of the reach of hope, the ugly oil trucks fell upon them and then a hellish fire was kindled over the pregnant grave.

THE FLAMES SHOT UP

as if some devilish power was in them exulting over the victory. The great light was seen for miles around. Presently the clear night air was filled with the dismal pealing of church bells from the villages far away. A fire engine came to the scene with hose to engage in the useless attempt to extinguish the flames. Hundreds of people flocked to the scene of carnage, and the sight was one that can never be effaced from the memory of all who saw it, and one, the recurrence of which all pray may never come.

RECOVERING THE DEAD.

The terrible task of fishing up the mangled bodies of the unfortunate passengers began with the morning. The burning of the oil-car gave light to the body of citizens of New Hamburg, who worked as men could only work to exhume the dead. Some portions of the sleeping car not sunk beneath the ice were still burning, and the hardy villagers, heeding not the fire, failed not in their duty, but with levers, crowbars, and beams of all kinds tore away pieces of the framework of the cars to get at the dead bodies. On one of the broken trestles of the bridge a man held a huge pine torch, and the scene at the time was weird and ghastly in the extreme. The immense pile of lumber, and the frame work of the sleeping-conches, prevented the villagers from reaching the bodies during the night, and not until 9 o'clock Tuesday morning was the first body found.

The next was a woman, with two children in her arms. Her body and head were charred almost to a cinder. She was lying on her back, and the children seemed to have been leaning forward to kiss her when the death crash came. She was subsequently identified as the wife of the Rev. Morrell Fowler, and the body of her husband, a portly man, was found, terribly disfigured, by her side. They were en route for SaltLake City.

A woman, with her right arm burnt nearly off the blackened trunk, was next dug up. The agony which she endured before death came to her must have been terrible.

At length a villager, who was armed with a bar of iron, succeeded in finding the body of Peter Vosburg, the conductor of the Buffalo sleeping car, who went down with his train. He was terribly burnt about the body and limbs, but by chance the face was not mutilated much, and a smile showed the white teeth through the blackened lips of the dead man. In his breast pocket, clasped tightly in his withered hand, was the record of his car, as if, true to his trust, caring not so much for death, he was determined that others who might be killed should at least be known.

But the worst scene of all was when a sleigh driver saw a body of a once fine-looking man lying under the timbers of the second sleeping car. After great difficulty the body was taken out, and recognized as that of Mr. Geo. S. Benedict, the proprietor of the Cleveland Herald.

The next body taken out of the fearful chasm was that of a fine-looking man, about 50 years of age, with beard and mustache, Albert collar, and black tie. The body presented a fearful appearance, the flesh being partially burnt off the skull. This body was soon recognized as that of Mr. Rollin Germain, an inventor of no mean reputation, who earned a celebrity during the war by his improvements in steam war vessels.

As soon as each body was raised out of the icy cerement of the creek, the citizens carried it to a large baggage van, in which a fire was lighted on a great brazier. The ice on whatever of clothes was attached to the bodies was gradually melted, and the corpses were searched for letters and marks of identification. So, gradually the names of the dead were ascertained, and despatches sent to their friends announcing the saddening story. It was especially noticeable, in connection with this, that the villagers of New Hamburg alone sought the bodies of the dead, and that the railway officials seemed to be wholly absorbed in repairing the bridge through which the cars fell into the creek below. This strange conduct on the part of the railway officials was universally commented on at New Hamburg last night, and made the occasion of many bitter remarks by the citizens.

Last night the scenes in the vicinity of the sickening disaster were dismal in the extreme. There was the yawning gulf which had enveloped the dead, over it was a frame of charred timbers, and half a hundred men carrying lights were moving about above the wreck. The sound of the axe, saw and hammer of the workmen repairing the bridge was heard. Two locomotives drawing trains had approached the brink, one on each side, and stood with their great lights glaring down into the abyss. The night was dark, and the scores of people on the field of ice surrounding the creek could just be discerned. All the villagers had been at work on the ice and in the water as long as the light of day lasted, and were nearly frozen.

To keep from perishing many of them had resorted to spirituous liquor, and in the evening they were half intoxicated. In carrying the passengers from the trains around the wreck on the ice, they ran, cursed, and shouted at the very brink of the grave. A few tall masts, with their crossing spars, stood close by the side of the tomb, like monumental crosses erected to commemorate the disaster.

☞The dwelling-house of Mr. McCurda at Pemaquid, with its contents was destroyed by fire on Saturday night last. The property was partially insured.

Maine Legislature.

There is but little prospect of final adjournment being reached on Saturday of this week as was expected. In order, however, to facilitate the progress of business with a view to early adjournment a committee have arranged and systematized the business for presentation so that some time next week the session will terminate. The principal legislation of the past week has been as follows:

Mr. Pike's bill providing for a general railroad law was called up on Tuesday in the House by that gentleman, who advocated its passage in an able speech. He spoke of the origin, scope and effect of railroad legislation as now conducted in Maine affirming that railroad committees as now constituted made it quite impossible for them to view railroad propositions with indifference, interested as most of their members were in the advancement of pet schemes. He spoke of the lobby, which has become such a power, and whose influence he viewed with alarm. Mr Pike dwelt upon the principles involved in his bill and contended that such a law as he advocated, and whose leading features were a transcript of the Massachusetts law applicable to Maine, would put a stop to special railroad legislation, and furnish the practical remedies that he believed were necessary to improve our railroad system. The principal feature of his bill was a board of three railroad commissioners in which the business community will be represented, and which board would stand between the people and railroad corporations, and be the proper tribunal in which certain remedies spoke of would be applied.

A bill has been reported granting a charter for the construction of the Northern Aroostook Railroad which runs from some point on the line of the E. & N. A. Railway, near the Mattawamkeag river to Houlton thence to Portage Lake plantation and finally to Fort Kent.

Bills have been reported abolishing the State Liquor Commissioner and allowing agents to purchase liquors wherever they choose. Also exempting the City of Augusta for three years from constructing or maintaining a fishway. Also increasing the number of fish commissioners.

In the Senate a motion was made to indefinately postpone the bill providing for the exemption of females from arrest for debt and imprisonment, passed to be engrossed in the House, which motion after a brief debate was withdrawn and the bill tabled.

The Senate has passed a bill to be engrossed authorizing the extension of the Boston & Maine railroad from South Berwick to Portland by a vote of 22 to 8.

A favorable report has been made on the bill relating to interest upon railroad bonds, the object of which is to conform to the law passed last winter.

The bill establishing uniformity of text books has been taken up in the House, and after discussion was tabled.

An order of inquiry has been referred to the Railroad Committee relating to the expediency of repealing the law of April 1, 1856, authorizing the consolidation of certain railroads by leasing one road to another.

The Judiciary Committee has been instructed to inquire into the expediency of enacting a law limiting the number of times that loan bills for town and city credits in aid of corporations, and the right by towns to take stock in the same, shall be submitted to their voters when it has once been rejected.

The Bethel contested election case in the House of G. A. Hastings (Dem.) who contested the seat of M. C. Foster (Rep.) the sitting member, after debate resulted in giving the latter the seat.

A joint committee has been appointed to ascertain if any legislation is necessary for the arrangement of councillor districts, for the next decade, and for the assignment to each county in those districts.

A resolve has been reported appropriating $2,000 to pay loss of the Maine State Agricultural Society occasioned by the accident at their last exhibition in this city. Another resolve was reported in favor of appropriating $20,000 to the State College of Agriculture.

The Committee of Conference have reported that they were unable to agree on the proposition to extend the time to May 1, when the Revised Statues shall go into effect, and the House then adhered to its former vote extending the time.

The action of the Senate in not transmitting to the House the report with accompanying evidence of the commission on paper credits when that commission was authorized to report to the legislature, and also in assuming the responsibility to print the report was criticised in the House, and resulted in the co-ordinate branch being requested to transmit the report with accompanying documents. To this request the Senate replied that it had authorized the printing and distribution of 4,000 copies of the report, and 2,000 copies of the report with appendix, and that as the State printers had the report in hand, and that it would take until May 1st, to have it printed, the request of the House could not be complied with before that date. The House expressed its indignation at the independent action of the Senate which was characterized as a gross insult, and voted to refer the matter to a special committee of five, consisting of Messrs. Pike of Calais, Wilson of Thomaston, Lord of Alfred, Haskell of Portland, and Cram of Brunswick.

The Senate sent to the House for the Franco-Prussian resolves which were tabled in that branch in order that they might act on them, but the House in answer to this request respectfully declined taking any action.

The State tax for the present fiscal year will be $1,125,000

The acts for the relinquishment of certain lots of land to the United States for lighthouse sites, and consenting to the purchase of lands by the United States for public purposes, have gone through.

A bill providing for the examination of teachers in physiology has been passed in the Senate by a vote of 24 to 2.

After discussion the House repealed the porgie law passed last winter.

The Governor has informed the House that the cost of disbursing the appropriations in aid of the destitute orphans of soldiers and seamen has been as follows: For the appropriation of 1867, $802.50; of 1868, $958.50; of 1869, $1112.00; of 1870, $1041.37.

The House has passed to be engrossed the bill defining the notice on petitions for assessment of damages for lands taken by railroad corporations, which requires fourteen days personal notice to the adverse party.

The bill to protect bridges from injury by droves of cattle has passed the Senate.

A bill has been reported to aid free High Schools, which provides that whenever any such school is established in a town and a special appropriation is made by the town for the same, the State will appropriate a like amount not to exceed $500.

Bills have also been reported in favor of the Penobscot Bay and River railroad, to extend the Somerset railroad to Bingham and to complete its construction to Carratunk Falls, and for the promotion of immigration to this State.

The House has passed to be engrossed the bill providing for free instruction in our public schools in industrial or mechanical drawing.

A Resolve has been reported providing for a commission to devise plans for establishing a State Industrial School for girls.

The Judiciary Committee have reported resolves providing for an amendment of the constitution so as to authorize the Legislature to call a constitutional convention.

The Orono Horticultural Society has been incorporated.

The Somerset and Portland & Kennebec railroads have been authorized to connect at Waterville.

The Westbrook division case has been amicably adjusted by the contending parties and a bill was reported dividing that ancient town which will pass without any opposition. The name of the new town will be known as Deering.

Reference to the next legislature has been reported on orders limiting savings banks in their dividends; prohibiting them from loaning their funds out of the State; regulating their investments; allowing their Presidents compensation for services; taxing deposits over $200, and increasing the bonds of their treasurers. Also on the bill to regulate the qualifications of practitioners in medicine and surgery. Also the report of the commission on jail system, together with the proposition for biennial sessions of the Legislature.

Legislation inexpedient has been reported relative to investment of deposits in Savings banks; to annexation of a part of Westbrook to Portland; changing the law concerning poor debtors; to prevent consolidation of parallel railroad lines; of providing by a general law that cities and towns may loan their credit in aid of manufactures.

Adverse reports have been made relating to repealing the law regulating the sale of milk; to prevent spendthrifts from wasting their earnings; to call a convention to revise the constitution of the State, for the reason there is no provision in the present constitution for such action; to reannex to Limington the part set off last winter; on a petition for a railroad from Danville Junction to Gorham. The project of extending the Androscoggin railroad from Brunswick to Bath is killed. The contest for the repeal of the Cobb Lime Company on the ground that it was a monopoly and intended to kill out smaller corporations has proved unsuccessful. The petitions from the town of Clinton for authority to loan its credit to manufacturing enterprises have been adversely acted upon, as well as a similar proposition from Skowhegan.

Items of Maine News.

The next Democratic State Convention will be held at Augusta.

The scythe factories in North Wayne village have suspended work for the present.

On Friday last, Pres. Grant nominated Hon. B. M. Roberts of Stockton, as Collector of Belfast, and Stephen Longfellow as Collector of Machias.

At the match game of billiards at Central Billiard Hall in Lewiston, on Thursday evening of last week, between Henry F. Shiel of Portland, and Charles E. Smith of Augusta, for 1000 points, carom, Smith won by 148 points.

The Norway *Messenger* says Mr. Nathan Noble, a gentleman about 77 years of age living in the north part of the town, was struck with paralysis on Tuesday of last week. His senses are so paralyzed that he does not recognize even the members of his own family.

A young man, 19 years of age, who called at the police station in Manchester, N. H., last Saturday evening for lodging, proved to be Charles Roberts, who stole a horse and sleigh from Vassalboro', Me., on the night of the 31st ult. He formerly lived in Manchester and was a wild boy, having been sent to the Reform School from which it is said he escaped.

Simeon Walton, who was keeper on board the steamer Victoria, at the time her owners stole her from Portland while she was under attachment, has become insane, and on Wednesday night of last week was carried to the asylum at Augusta. Mr. Walton's insanity, it is thought was partially caused by the anxiety and hardships he endured while being carried away in the vessel.

Mr. Gleason of Union, while in Washington felling trees, was struck by a tree which had lodged upon another, and his head severely bruised and cut, so that his skull was laid bare over a place three inches long and one wide.

Henry Van Meter who died in Bangor last week, had reached the great age of 110 years. He was a colored man, and during his long life had seen adventures enough to fill many volumes. His portrait and a brief biographical sketch were published in Harper's Magazine in 1864.

Mr. J. Hayes was at work in the woods near Patten, one day last week, chopping, when his axe slipped and struck his ankle with such force that it cut completely through the joint. He was brought out of the woods and sent home to his friends near Houlton.

On Saturday the 4th, the house and out-buildings of Wm. Andrews were burned. Loss $1000. They with the assistance of Rev. Mr. Turner and wife saved all the household furniture. The second story was occupied by an old lady, Mrs. Lord, and but for the timely assistance of Alpha Turner, she must have perished in the flames. She saved nothing but the clothing she had on and a shawl.

The *Age* says that the bondsmen of Joseph Shaw, collector of taxes of the town of Waldo, who absconded some months ago, leaving them in the lurch to the amount of $700, have been unable to get track of him, and will be compelled to make good the loss to the town.

The Patten correspondent of the Bangor *Whig* writes that on one day last week Mr. M. Smith who was at work falling trees in "No. 2," was discovered by his fellow workmen after a short absence, crushed to death under a fallen tree. His skull was fractured so that the brains protruded and his shoulder and spine broken short off, which indicated that his death was instantaneous. Smith leaves a wife and three small children.

Dr. Bushnal, a pedlar of medicines and essences, was found last Thursday evening lying dead-drunk on the side of the road between Wiscasset and Newcastle. The Dr. had a narrow squeak for his life, as the stage, probably the only carriage over that lonely road during the night—nearly passed by him in the darkness without the driver seeing him; and the cold was intense, about 15 below zero. The wandering physician, with his bag was thrown in before the kitchen fire of the nearest farm house, with only his ears a little damaged by frost.

The Machias *Union* says George, aged about 14 years, son of Amos Creamer, had a desperate encounter with a burgler in his father's barn, at about 8 o'clock Friday evening last. He noticed a light in the barn and upon entering the light disappeared, and he was seized and roughly handled. Freeing himself he got into the yard, where he was again attacked, and remembering that he had a loaded pistol in his pocket, he says he fired it off, hitting the villain on the arm and causing him to exclaim: "Oh, God, I am shot!" The thief then suddenly left for parts unknown. As a trophy of the battle George exhibits a pair of ladies gloves, about number six in size.

The *Whig* says on Monday afternoon as Edward K. Longley of Milford, was at work on the steam saw mill of G. F. Dillinghara & Co., he slipped and fell on a circular saw in rapid motion, cutting a frightful gash nearly a foot in length over his right hip, extending to the lower part of the abdomen, and penetrating nearly through its muscles. A knife in his pantaloons pocket caught between a tooth of the saw and the table, thus stopping the saw and saving him from being severed in twain. As it is, had the saw cut the least distance deeper, the wound must have resulted in speedy death. The little finger of his right hand was cut off and two other fingers injured, it the same time. The wounded man is quite comfortable and hopes are entertained of his recovery.

Rev. Mr. Parker, who has lately resigned the pastorate of the First Congregational church of Belfast was very pleasantly surprised on Tuesday evening, by a visit, at his house, by the members of the church and congregation, who presented him with $300.

Religious interest in an unusual degree is reported in St. Albans, Gardiner, New Castle, Damariscotta, and Acton Corner. In the latter place, the Congregational and Methodist churches are holding united meetings.

The house of Mr. Oliver Brann, situated in the west part of Belgrade, was burned to the ground with nearly all its contents on the morning of the 30th ult. Cause of fire defect in chimney. Partially insured.

Mr. Moses Richardson of Tremont, has a chair one hundred and eleven years old—old looking—with back and arms which extend around three corners, leaving one corner to sit on. There is quite a romance connected therewith, the chair having been rescued from a sinking ship in mid ocean, and presented to a Miss Smith, just one hundred years ago, as an engagement gift, by Mr. John Rich, who afterward became possessed of Miss Smith and her chair, enjoying many a fine "setting" therein.

The *Voice* understands that an Irishman arrived in New Limerick, just from Ireland, who was sick with small pox. A number of the neighbors went to see him, supposing him to have the measles, as he represented. The disease has spread rapidly, and the county road has been fenced up and a constable from Houlton watches the road day and night to prevent anybody entering Houlton from that district.

Mr. Almond Horn, a young man of 21, was fat

The Maine Farmer: An Agricultural and Family Newspaper.

Foreign News.

THE EUROPEAN SITUATION.

Escape of a Division of the French Army of the East.

Brussels, Feb. 7. The *Independence Belge* has a telegram from Lyons, which says Gen. Cremer, with one division of the French Army of the East, has effected a retreat from Pontarlier to Gex, but was obliged to spike and abandon forty guns to the Prussians.

The Eastern Conference.

London, Feb. 7. The Eastern Conference met again to-day, with representatives in attendance from all consignatory powers except France. Upon its adjournment assurances were given out that a pacific solution of the entire Eastern question has been attained.

A Prolongation of the Armistice Expected.

London, Feb. 8. The Brussels *Correspondent* has a telegram which says that Odo Russell has been instructed to sustain the demand made by Favre for an extension of the armistice, and its prolongation is expected.

Peace at Any Price.

London, Feb. 8. The *Times* to-day says that all the information received from Paris indicates a longing for peace at any price.

The *Daily News* says that the Parisians will vote to-day in entire dependence upon the good faith of the Germans. It is impossible to complete the negotiations for peace between the meeting of the National Assembly and the 19th, when the armistice expires, and when fighting may be resumed. It is said, continues the *News*, that the German preparations to overrun the whole of France in that event are of the most formidable character.

The Dowry of Princess Louise.

John Locke, M. P. for Southwark, in an address to his constituents last evening, expressed himself in favor of the grant by Parliament of a dowry to the Princess Louise. The announcement created a great uproar in the meeting, and the utterance of the Queen's n me was hissed. The workmen last evening resolved to hold public meetings in the metropolis and provinces to protest against the dowry.

The Distress in Paris.

Favre wrote to the Lord Mayor of London, Tuesday, expressing the gratitude of the Government and people of Paris for the munificent gift of food received from London.

The letter says that the distress in Paris has been very great and that it still continues, but that the city is tranquil.

A Proclamation from Napoleon.

A dispatch from Wilhelmshohe says that the ex-Emperor Napoleon has issued a proclamation to the French people in reference to the elections.

A Former Statement Confirmed.

The Paris *Presse* confirms the statement that France is to withdraw from the treaty of commerce with England.

Picard and Favre have accepted candidatures for the National Assembly.

Turkish Troops on the Romanian Frontier.

London, Feb. 9. A dispatch from Belgrade says that the Turkish Government is concentrating a large force of troops on the Roumanian frontier, and announces that they will remain there while the treaty of Paris of '56 is observed.

The Crescent City Aground.

The steamship Crescent City, Captain Williams, from New Orleans 12th, is aground on the coast of Ireland, and will, it is feared, become a total wreck. The passengers, crew and specie were all got ashore in safety, but there is little hope of saving the cargo. The Crescent City had on board 4000 bales of cotton, which is probably insured in Europe.

English Members of the High Commission.

London, Feb. 9. [Special to the New York *World.*] The English members of the Joint Commission on the Alabama and Fisheries questions are Earl De Gray, Thornton, John A. MacDonald and Sir John Rose.

The British Government desired that the Commission should consist of only three members, but the Cabinet at Washington insisted on ten, and England yielded.

Barnard, Professor of International Law at Oxford, and Lord Tenterden as? Secretary, accompany the Commissioners of the Alabama claims and fisheries questions. The Commission sails to-morrow.

Queen Victoria Hissed.

London, Feb. 9. [Special to the New York *World.*] The Queen, preceded by the Horse Guards, in passing through Whitehall, to open Parliament to-day, was greeted with mingled cheers and hisses, the latter predominating. The cheers were chiefly given by Germans. The extraordinary police precautions prevented disorder.

The French Election.

Bordeaux, Feb. 9. In the election for the Assembly the Republicans were successful at Pau, Perpignon and Oran, and in the Department of Ardeche, Marner, Et Loire, Arrege, Indre and Herault. Conservative candidates have been elected from Poitiers and Montaban, and in the Departments of Tarn and Garonne. The candidates of the Liberal Union party have been generally elected throughout France wherever they have been in nomination. The Republican majority at Bordeaux is large.

Prussia's Terms of Peace.

London, Feb. 9. [Special to the New York *Herald.*] Although the report of the terms demanded by Prussia as to the conditions of peace is destitute of authority, there is good reason to believe the following conditions reported:

The cession of Alsace and sixty German square miles of Lorraine, which consists of 457 square miles, the part of Lorraine to be ceded to include Metz; one and one-half millions of francs for the war expenses; thirty millions of francs for captured ships, and forty million francs for the German workmen, clerks and the small industrial, expelled from France, and certain rentes on a few millions on a limited time for crippled and maimed Germans and orphans, caused by the war.

England's Position on the Alabama Claims.

London, Feb. 10. The *Times* to-day, in commenting upon the Queen's speech, says: "Although the Alabama question is secondary to that of the fisheries, as a subject of consideration by the commission, yet there is no doubt as to which question will mainly engage its attention. But it is erroneous to suppose that it is the purpose of the commission to find ground for England to abandon her position, or to concede her liability upon the Alabama question."

Surrender of the Paris Armament.

Versailles, Feb. 8. [Special to N. Y. *Herald.*] Yesterday 80 field guns and 140,000 rifles were delivered at Ivry and Vanvres as a consignment of the armament proceeding.

How Gambetta's Proclamation was Received.

Immediately on the receipt of Gambetta's proclamatinn of the 31st ult., Bismarck sent a message to Favre, and received a satisfactory reply, announcing that measures would be taken to arrest Gambetta if necessary. Favre is in favor at headquarters. He has won the esteem and confidence of the officers there.

Gloomy Paris.

Things look gloomy to-day, and the explanation of the cause is precluded that Paris will be entered before the 19th inst. Preparations are making for a heavy bombardment should possible complications occur.

The attitude of the city is apathetic, and a reaction is expected. The arrangements for supplyi.g food are working tolerably. The mines at the gates are destroyed. In the riot at the Halles on Monday there was no blood shed. The time for the departure of the Emperor is unsettled, but it will probably be the last of next month. A gloomy feeling in high circles prevails here. Should the Assembly reject peace, the war will be resumed with unsparing vigor, and Paris will be heavily mulcted. The elections passed off quietly here. Moderate Republican Deputies are probably elected, the same as in the northeast. Grave apprehensions are entertained with regard to the south. Communication with Paris is kept tighter than ever. Bismarck is again quite ill. His state causes great uneasiness.

The Situation in Paris.

The revictualing is preceding well, but the organization is wretched. The poorer districts are suffering badly, and there is terrible mortality among the children. Many respectable people are making efforts to leave, dreading a renewal of the war, which will bring on worse horrors than ever.

The actual condition of the city is little changed. Champs Elysees is very little damaged. Bois de Bologne is destroyed at the entry to the lake, and other parts are partially destroyed. The shops are slowly commencing to reopen. The nights are still terribly dull, and it is singular there are no street robberies.

The French Elections.

London, Feb. 10. A dispatch from Lille says the official result of the elections in the Department of the North, will only be published to-morrow. The counting of votes has been a long and difficult operation. A Monarchical triumph is certain, as the Republican majority in the city is but 25 per cent., while the Monarchists have a majority averaging 50 per cent. in the Provinces.

London, Feb. 11. It is now ascertained beyond a doubt that the result of the French elections is a triumph for the Conservatives. The routes to Paris are all open and travel is restored.

Brussels, Feb. 12. The result of the elections in 54 departments is 370 Bonapartists and Orleanists and 80 Republicans.

The Count De Paris.

Versailles, Feb. 10. [Special to New York *World.*] A strong belief prevails at Prussian headquarters that the French Assembly will frame a provisional government with Count de Paris as President, and provide for a further plebiscite on the question of restoration of the Orleanists or the establishment of a Republic. Duc de Aumale has less chance than his nephew.

The Extension of the Armistice.

Berlin, Feb. 10. The Kreuz Zeitung to-day, says that no decision will be made as to the prolongation of the armistice, until it can be seen what chances there are that the French National Assembly will conclude a peace.

Sailing of the British Commissioners.

London, 13. The Steamship Cuba, which sailed from Liverpool Saturday for New York, took out among her passengers, Earl de Gray, Lord Tenterden, Mr. Montague Bernard, and Viscount Goderie of the Joint High Commission, for the settlement of the fishing question and the Alabama and other claims. The Commissioners are attended by a number of diplomatic and other attendants.

Items of French News.

Versailles, Feb. 12. The delivery of arms to the Germans has been completed by the army of Paris. The Germans are destroying the French guns, which prove to be useless, on account of the removal of portions of the breech-loading apparatus.

The German army will make a triumphant entry into Paris at noon the 19th inst. The Emperor will proceed to the Palace of the Tuileries, and after partaking of a lunch with his Court and Staff, will review the army from that building. In case the Tuileries should not be in a proper condition for the reception of the Emperor he will occupy the Palace of Elysee.

Versailles, Feb. 12. Upon the entry of the Prussians into Paris the troops will be told off to occupy the houses along the line of route adopted for the passage of the Emperor.

On the 19th the general officers of the army will inspect the army of investment which will march with bands playing and colors flying. His Majesty will then return to Versailles, but will revisit Paris upon the two following days, and then return to Germany if nothing occurs during the rest of the week to prevent.

Bordeaux, Feb. 13. At the preparatory sittings of the National Assembly to-day about 400 Deputies were present. The session was formally opened and Secretaries appointed.

Congressional Summary.

Forty-first Congress---Third Session.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 8.

SENATE. The House resolution appropriating $20,000 to the Senate Southern Investigating Committee was concurred in and two member added to the Committee, which was authorized to sit during the session and report from time to time.

The Senate joint resolution, authorizing the sale of the Hancock barracks at Houlton, Me., was passed.

Mr. Anthony introduced a bill to punish bribery at Presidential elections. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Williams had read the resolutions of the Oregon Legislature rejecting the Fifteenth Amendment. It denies the right of Congress to interfere with suffrage within that State, and charges that the amendment is being forced upon the States by the aid of bayonets.

Mr. Williams said the resolution was an indication of the position to be assumed and the issues to be raised by the Democratic party in the next Presidential election. The maintenance or overthrow of all the Constitutional amendments and the reconstruction of the laws, involving a return to the condition of anarchy existing at the close of the rebellion was to be the great absorbing question of that election.

Mr. Thurman desired to say, for the benefit of his friend Williams, that it was the intention of the Democratic party to hold a National Convention between now and the next Presidential election. Judging from the past it was altogether probable that the Convention would lay down a platform, and that the Democrats of Oregon would stand with their brethren throughout the country upon that platform.

Mr. Pool presented a remonstrance, which was read, of the Third Congressional District of North Carolina against the removal of the disabilities of Senator elect Vance and Representative elect Waddell. The latter gentleman referred to was in favor of depriving Union men of North Carolina of their civil and political rights, and establishing over them a system of terrorism and intimidation.

The bill to regulate, reorganize and conduct the public schools in the District of Columbia coming up, a motion by Mr. Patterson to strike out the sixth section, which prohibits any distinction on account of race or color or previous condition of servitude in admission of children to the schools, or the same education and treatment, gave rise to a long discussion upon the expediency and propriety of establishing mixed schools in the District.

HOUSE. Mr. Scofield of Pennsylvania, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill for the removal of the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

The bill having been read, Mr. Scofield said that the people of Brooklyn regarded the Navy Yard as an inpediment to improvements, and a public nuisance. The Committee understood that the land and fixtures would sell for twenty million of dollars, and some estimate the price as high as thirty millions. The Committee had concluded that the land might be sold for twenty millions, provided that the Government could give a good title, but there was some little doubt about a portion of the title.

Mr. Dawes offered a resolution providing for a like removal of the Navy Yards at Charlestown, Mass., and Kittery, Me., or either of them.

After discussion the bill went over, and Mr. Degner of Texas introduced and advocated a bill for better protection of the frontier of Texas, authorizing the Secretary of War to organize and call into service a detachment of mounted men in each county, consisting of the inhabitants thereof, for defence against the Indians, and appropriating $100,000.

Mr. Logan of Illinois, said that he regarded the bill as one of support to a set of gentlemen on the border of Texas who had no employment. It meant nothing more or less than a war with Mexico. The bill was laid on the table—75 to 54.

The National Education bill was discussed.

THURSDAY, Feb. 9.

SENATE. Mr. Vickers, from the Committee on Commerce, reported adversely on the bill to secure the payment of wages to seamen in case of wreck.

Messrs. Stewart and Blair were appointed on the Southern Outrage Investigating Committee, but the former was subsequently excused at his own request, and the Chair was authorized to fill the vacancy.

The Senate then took up the Legislative, Judicial and Executive Appropriation Bill, and having rejected the first amendment increasing the clerical force in the office of the Secretary of the Senate from 6 to 14, went into executive session.

HOUSE. A motion to go into Committee on the General Calendar, in order to take up the bill to repeal the income tax, was defeated, 103 to 107. The vote is regarded as a test question of the sentiment of the House on the repeal of the income tax. There was great excitement among the members after the roll call and before the announcement of the individual votes, and changes of votes affecting the result, one way or the other, were made. The announcement of the result was greeted with applause and laughter, and it was several minutes before order was restored.

The remainder of the morning hour was occupied in a discussion of the bill to remove the Brooklyn Navy Yard, during which Mr. Ketchum of New York modified his pending substitute by striking out the names of the Commissioners who are to investigate the question of removal, and leaving the appointment with the President.

The bill finally went over, and the House spent half an hour in Committee of the Whole on the Naval appropriation bill, after which the death of Mr. Covode was announced. Eulogies were delivered by his colleagues and others, after which the House adjourned.

FRIDAY, Feb. 10.

SENATE. Numerous petitiones were presented for the removal of political disabilities; for pensions; for a modification of the homestead law; for the appointment of a commission of inquiry to visit the South, examine witnesses and report on the condition of the freed people.

The Senate bill making an appropriation of $15,000 for the contingent fund of the House of Representatives, passed.

Without concluding the business of the morning hour the Senate went into executive session.

Shortly after the doors were opened a message was received from the House announcing the death of Representative Corode, when eulogistic remarks were made by several Senators, and the customary resolutions of respect adopted, after which the Senate took a recess.

HOUSE. Mr. Starkweather of Conn., from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill to permit Wm. C. Hanscomb, a late Naval constructor in the Navy, to withdraw his resignation, which was accepted the 5th of January, 1866, and to reinstate him in office.

The bill was opposed by Mr. Arnoer of Ind., and Sargent of Cal., on the ground of a corrupt transaction of Hanscomb in 1866, in connection with his official duties, which led to his resignation.

Mr. Banks stated that the Secretary of the Navy had a doubt as to his authority, therefore wanted the action of Congress in the matter. As to the charges against Hanscomb, trumped up and sent to the House by Admiral Porter, he said that Hanscomb bore as honorable a reputation as any man in Massachusetts, and that in the opinion of the people of the country, was as superior in point of reputation to Admiral Porter as the Apostle John was to the traitor Judas. (Laughter.) Referring to the intimidation of naval officers by the Department, he said he had heard within the last two days of scores of naval engineers having said that the Tennessee, now on her way to Sandomingo or some other place, was not seaworthy and they were unwilling to risk their lives in her. He did not understand, however, that any engineers of the navy had said to Mr. Wade, or to President White, or to Dr. Howe, "if you take voyage on this vessel you do it at the risk of your lives." Why had they not told some of those 300 souls who had gone, no one knows where or how, that if they placed their foot on the Tennessee they were in danger of being lost forever.

Mr. Farnsworth of Ill., was reminded by the attack on Admiral Porter of the truth of the remark of Mr. Justice Dogberry, that compar. isons are odorous. It was vain for gentlemen to attempt to traduce the fame which Admiral Porter had now.

Mr. Banks—In his correspondence?

Mr. Farnsworth—Comparisons are odorous, says Mr. Justice Dogberry.

Mr. Banks—Is that the authority of the gentleman from Illinois? (Laughter.)

Mr. Butler closed the discussion in a speech in which he was very severe on Admiral Porter. Little of what he said, however, reached the reporter in an intelligible shape.

The bill for the restoration of Mr. Hanscomb was passed, 143 to 67, and now goes to the President for his approval.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the Naval Appropriation bill.

Several minor amendments were adopted and the bill passed.

The Conference Committee on the bill granting pensions to soldiers of the war of 1812 made a report, which was agreed to.

The bill now provides for pensions to the surviving officers and enlisted and drafted men, including militia and volunteers, who served sixty days in the army or navy in the Revolutionary war or the war of 1812, and honorably discharged. Also to the surviving widows of such officers and drafted or enlisted men. The pensions are to be at the rate of $8 per month.

Adjourned.

SATURDAY, Feb. 11.

SENATE. Mr. Anthony called up the resolution to print 20,000 extra copies of the report of the Commissioner on Education.

Mr. Bayard moved to strike out as untrue and libellous, the statements reflecting upon the school system of Delaware.

Mr. Anthony assented to the motion inasmuch as the charge of untruthfulness was made upon the personal knowledge of a Senator.

The motion prevailed, but was subsequently reconsidered and debated at length.

Mr. Wilson thought that the school system of Delaware was worse than was represented and that this was the case with all the States.

The discussion was continued by Messrs. Howe, Carpenter, Conkling and Sawyer without action until the morning hour expired.

Mr. Sherman introduced a bill to facilitate commerce between the United States and Asia. Referred to the Committee on Commerce.

It provides for incorporating R. S. Van Valkenburgh, Ben. Eggleston, Thos. A. Scott, Jas. Wilson and others as the Asiatic Commercial Company, with a capital of $10,000,000, for the purpose of carrying on commercial business between the United States, China and Japan, and engaging in public works in the last named countries.

Mr. Pomeroy called up the bill reported by him from the Committee on Public Lands, to incorporate the Great Salt Lake and Colorado River Railroad Company and aid in the construction of its road and for other purposes.

Mr. Edmunds said the bill created a corporation with $15,000,000 capital; that the proposed road was almost a thousand miles in length and the land grants would exceed millions of acres. He moved to refer the bill to the Committee on Pacific Railroads. Lost—Yeas 15; nays 29.

The bill was then laid aside temporarily.

HOUSE. Mr. Stevenson of Ohio, offered a resolution directing the Secretary of War to communicate information relative to the late fire at the West Point Military Academy, and the conduct of the Cadets on that occasion. Also any further information he may have touching the late misconduct of the 1st class, —adopted.

Mr. Armstrong introduced a joint resolution declaring that hereafter no Indian nation or tribe within the United States, shall be acknowledged or recognized as an independent nation, tribe or power with which the United States, shall be subject to the approval of Congress, nor to be construed as affecting or impairing obligations of any existing treaty. Referred.

MONDAY, Feb. 13.

SENATE. Mr. Pomeroy, from Com. on public lands, reported the House bill to enable honorably discharged soldiers and sailors, their widows and orphan children, to acquire homesteads on public lands of the U. S. with amendments, striking out the provision allowing assignment of homestead certificates, and by omitting the section allowing entry of land by an agent or attorney.

The resolution presenting a form of oath to be administered to H. B. Miller, Senator elect of Georgia, was passed.

HOUSE. Mr. Cobb of North Carolina, introduced a bill to protect loyal and peaceable citizens; providing for the appointment of a commissioner in each county in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and Kentucky, to take cognizance of all Ku-Klux outrages.

A bill creating a commission on the consolidation of Charlestown and Kittery Navy Yards was negatived.

Mr. Rogers of Ark., rising to a question of privilege, offered a resolution reciting that a number of women (laughter) had taken possession ten days since of the room of the Com. on Education and Labor, and requesting the Speaker to remove those women.

The Speaker did not see that there was any question involved in the resolution and did not know that he had any authority in the matter. If he had he would cheerfully delegate it to the gentleman from Arkansas. (Loud laughter.)

TUESDAY, Feb. 14.

SENATE. The House Joint resolution appropriating $5000 for George F. Robinson, in recognition of his services in saving the life of Secretary Seward in April, 1865, was passed.

Mr. Sherman from the Finance Committee, reported adversely on the House bill to remit the duties upon certain imported articles donated for the benefit of destitute citizens of France.

The Gulf Steamship Subsidy Bill was taken up in Committee of the Whole and passed.

The bill to provide for the selection of Cadets to the Naval and Military Academies was passed. In making appointments, representatives are required to select one from three applicants standing highest after a competitive examination, conducted by a committee of residents of the district, who are to be designated by said representatives.

HOUSE. The report of the Military Committee on the West Point Academy difficulties occupied the attention of the House during the morning session. Several substitutes were offered to the second resolution which recommends the Secretary of War to convene a court of inquiry for the purpose of ascertaining and expelling the instigators and leaders in the affair of Jan. 3d, and properly punishing other participating members of the class, but no action was taken.

HAZING AT WEST POINT. The report of the West Point Investigating Committee has been submitted to the House, recommending that the whole first class be expelled with the exception of four, and that the officers of the school be censured for the laxity of the discipline. Among those recommended for expulsion are a son of President Grant, a son of Adjutant General Townsend, and a son of the late Admiral Farragut. In regard to the first, class, and its participation in the forcible dismissal of Cadets Baird, Barnes and Fleckniger, the Committee says that any slight punishment will have the effect to aggravate the evil instead of proving a remedy. Four years ago part of the first class took an innocent cadet into their own hands and branded "Thief" upon him and drummed him from the Point. There was an investigation of the offence and they were tried by court martial, convicted and dismissed; but on application to the authorities at Washington the sentence was remitted, and the recent outrage must be regarded as in part the fruit of the clemency then shown. It is said that the influence of these boys was such with high officers of the government and the War office, that the superintendent was unwilling to reinstate the cadets which they had forced to leave the Academy. The Committee ascertained that young Grant had, on several occasions, secured the pardon of cadets who had been subject to penalties for violations of discipline, and had assumed to act as a power above the lawful governor of the institution.

BURIED ALIVE. A correspondent of the Plattsburg (Mo.) *Register*, relates the following remarkable hair breadth escape, which occurred a few days ago in Grundy county:

A Mr. John Andrews, a popular and well-to-do farmer in the neighborhood, had dug a well some forty feet deep, when it was discovered that the well was about to cave in. Mr. Andrews gathered up an armful of short boards and went down a pole ladder fastened to the side of the well, to lay them across the well so as to prevent the dirt as it fell from filling up the part of the well walled up. He had not more than reached the bottom, as it was thought, before the well caved in, filling up to a few feet of the top. The alarm was given, and the neighbors gathered, but all believing him dead they returned to their homes to make arrangements to come on the next day and dig him out.

Mrs. Andrews and two grown daughters and several smaller children refused to leave the spot and sat on a log, near the well, crying, until late in the evening, when all at once they saw Mr. Andrews emerging from the well, covered with clay, and coming towards them. The children all ran, screaming, to the house, believing it to be their father's ghost. But Mrs. Andrews ran to meet him, screaming at the top of her voice, "Oh, John! Is that you? Is that you?" When she reached him she fell fainting at his feet.

It seems that when he got to the bottom of the well he looked up and saw the top giving way, and believing he had not time to make his escape, he slipped under boards which he had laid across the well, when the whole thing fell in upon him. All hope at first gave way, and he was about to let himself drop into the water below and end at once his miserable feelings. But, feeling above, he found the clay easily crumbled and hope revived. The pole ladder, it seems, was still standing, and taking hold of it with one hand, he with the other scratched away for dear life, the dirt falling into the water below as he dragged his body slowly upwards. It seems he did not suffer much in breathing, as fresh air came down the pole, around which the dirt was loosely packed. In the incredible short time of seven hours he scratched a hole some forty feet long, through which he made his escape. This is one of the narrowest hair-breadth escapes from a horrible death on record.

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In Steuben, Feb. 11th, by J. C. Googins, Esq., Mr. Jason C. Whiten, of Plantation No. 7, to Mrs. Alma J. Ash of Gouldsboro'.

In Lewiston, Feb 9th, by Rev. M. Haynes, assisted by Rev. W. H. Bowen, Mr. Charles F. Goss to Miss Abbie R. Madison.

Died.

In Appleton, 8th inst., Herbert A. Walker, aged 17 years, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Walker.

In Trenton, N. J., 3d inst., Mark Fisher, aged 67 years.

In Auburn, 6th inst., Mr. Jude Hackett, aged 65 years, 8 days.

In Hebron Academy, Feb 8th, Mrs. Mary, wife of Joseph Sturtevant, aged 84 years and 2 months.

In Avon, Jan. 24th, Mrs, Sally Thomas, aged 82 years and 8months.

In Hope, Jan. 2d, Mrs. Susan Hilt, aged 77 years and 8 months.

In Castine, Jan. 31st, Rowland H. Bridgham, M. D., aged 70 years and 6 months.

In Fairfield, Jan. 31st, Mrs. Salome Bates, aged 84 years and 6 days.

In Unity, Jan. 12th, Mrs, Lucinda Murch, aged 70 years.

In Waterville, Feb. 1st, Mrs. Hannah Thayer, aged 56 years.

TROPHY TOMATO.

ONE of the earliest, the largest, the smoothest, the most fleshy and consequently the heaviest, and much the best flavored of any tomato grown. My Waring, at *twenty-five cents each*. Packages of about 100 seeds mailed free on receipt of 25 cents, or 4 packages for $1.00. Address,

ALBERT NOYES, Bangor, Me.

SOLDIERS OF 1812.

SOLDIERS of the War of 1812 who served for the period of 60 days (and in case of the decease of a soldier their surviving widow) can now obtain a Pension of $8 per month by applying to

R. W. BLACK, Att'y at Law.

P. S. Applicants by letter should state the Company and Regiment in which they served. 3m11

CHEAP SOUTHERN FARMS

AND fine timber lands in desirable locations. Some of the finest and best located pine lands in Alabama, much below market price for cash, Colony forming for North Carolina. Send stamp for circular. COLUMBIAN SOUTHERN LAND AGENCY, 2w11 33 Park Row, New York.

FRESH GARDEN AND FLOWER, FRUIT, AND EVERGREEN TREE AND SHRUB SEEDS, postpaid by Mail, 25 different packets of either class for $1.00. The six classes, $5.00. Catalogues gratis. Agents wanted. Seed on commission. B. M. WATSON, Plymouth, Mass. 1mcop11

Agents! Read This!

WE WILL PAY AGENTS A SALARY of $30 per week and expenses, or allow a large commission, to sell our new and wonderful inventions. Address M. WAGNER & CO., Marshall, Mich. 6m11

100 SCHOOL TEACHERS

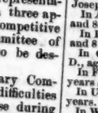
Wanted Immediately,

SITUATION permanent. Apply to

FRED. A. WALDRON,
3w11 Waterville, Maine.

Farm for Sale.

WARASH COUNTY, Minn., 40 acres improved, rolling prairie. Daily line of stages pass through it, 2 miles from river. County well settled, land very rich and will be sold very low. Inquire of C. T. GREENLEAF, 4w11 Bath, Me.



Farm for Sale,

Pleasantly situated on the east side of Chias Lake. For further particulars inquire of the subscriber on the premises.

South China, Feb. 18, 1871. ELIJAH HUSSEY. 4t11

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In Albion, Feb. 12th, by J. Whitaker, Esq., Mr. Eugene H. Steward, of Hartland, to Miss Endie A Mitchell of Unity.

In Boothbay, Feb. 1st by Rev. A. J. Smith, Albert Murray to Miss Abbie Sargent; also Feb. 5th, in Boothbay, Mr. Osborn Pinkham to Miss Julia E. Hodgdon of Boothbay.

In Steuben, Feb. 11th, by J. C. Googins, Esq., Mr. Jason C. Whiten, of Plantation No. 7, to Mrs. Alma J. Ash of Gouldsboro'.

In Lewiston, Feb 9th, by Rev. M. Haynes, assisted by Rev. W. H. Bowen, Mr. Charles F. Goss to Miss Abbie R. Madison.

Died.

In Appleton, 8th inst., Herbert A. Walker, aged 17 years, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Walker.

In Trenton, N. J., 3d inst., Mark Fisher, aged 67 years.

In Auburn, 6th inst., Mr. Jude Hackett, aged 65 years, 8 days.

In Hebron Academy, Feb 8th, Mrs. Mary, wife of Joseph Sturtevant, aged 84 years and 2 months.

In Avon, Jan. 24th, Mrs, Sally Thomas, aged 82 years and 8months.

In Hope, Jan. 2d, Mrs. Susan Hilt, aged 77 years and 8 months.

In Castine, Jan. 31st, Rowland H. Bridgham, M. D., aged 70 years and 6 months.

In Fairfield, Jan.

Poetry.

LESSONS.

BY W. A. KENDALL.

Year after year
Nature renews of life her various types;
The penance lily and the passion rose
Their primal tints disclose.

Year after year
The skylark trills the skylark's ancient song;
And in the matted grass the cricket troll
Their pre-deluvian role.

Year after year
The cradle blossoms with the sinless babe;
And never vainly does the harvest grave
Its solemn tribute crave.

Year after year
The fields of Spring are strown with promise blooms;
And Autumn's russet walls are hung with fruit
For Winter's thriftless suit.

Year after year
Without confusion and without delay,
Earth is re-peopled, and in stately train
The Seasons come again.

Year after year
Since no remittance is by Nature shown,
Surely, on nature's God may man rely,
'Neath whatsoever sky.

Year after year,
She, constant priestess, at His altar stands,
Repeating lessons of exhaustless trust
To faithless lips of dust.

Year after year,
Lead me, O, Nature! nearer perfect faith.
That I may see through all degrees of gloom,
Love in perpetual bloom!

—*Californian.*

Our Story Teller.

From All The Year Round.

TOM CHUFF'S VISION.

At the edge of melancholy Catsteen Moor, in the north of England, with half a dozen ancient poplar trees with rugged and hoary stems around, one smashed across the middle by a flash of lightning thirty summers before, and all by their great height dwarfing the abode near which they stand, there squats a rude stone house, with a thick chimney, a kitchen and bedroom on the ground floor, and a loft, accessible by a ladder, under the shingle roof, divided into two rooms.

Its owner was a man of ill reputo. Tom Chuff was his name. A thick-headed, broad-shouldered, powerful man, though somewhat short, with lowering brows and a sullen eye. He was a poacher, and hardly made an ostensible pretence of earning his bread by an honest industry. He was a drunkard. He beat his wife, and led his children a life of terror and lamentation, when he was at home. It was a blessing to his frightened little family when he absented himself, as he sometimes did, for a week or more together.

On the night I speak of he knocked at the door with his cudgel, at about eight o'clock. It was winter, and the night was very dark. Had the summons been that of a borgie from the moor, the inmates of this small house could hardly have heard it with greater terror.

His wife unbarred the door in fear and haste. Her hunch-backed sister stood by the hearth, starting towards the threshold. The children cowered behind.

Tom Chuff entered with his cudgel in his hand, without speaking, and threw himself into a chair opposite the fire. He had been away two or three days. He looked haggard, and his eyes were bloodshot. They knew he had been drinking.

Tom raked and knocked the peat fire with his stick, and thrust his feet close to it. He signed toward the little dresser, and nodded at his wife, and she knew he wanted a cup, which in silence she gave him. He pulled a bottle of gin from his coat-pocket, and nearly filling the teacup, drank off the dram at a few gulps.

He usually refreshed himself with two or three drams of this kind before beating the inmates of his house. His three little children, cowering in a corner, eyed him from under a table, as Jack did the ogre in the nursery tale. His wife, Nell, standing behind a chair, which she was ready to snatch up to meet the blow of the cudgel which might be levelled at her at any moment, never took his eyes off him; and h inch-backed Mary showed the whites of a large pair of eyes, similarly employed as she stood against the oaken press, her dark face hardly distinguishable in the distance from the brown panel behind it.

Tom Chuff was at his third dram, and had not yet spoken a word since his entrance; and the suspense was growing dreadful, when, on a sudden, he leaned back in his rude seat, the cudgel slipped from his hand, a change and a death-like pallor came over his face.

For a while they all stared; such was their fear of him, they dared not speak or move lest it should prove to have been but a doze, and Tom should wake up and proceed forthwith to gratify his temper and exercise his cudgel.

In a little time, however, things began to look so odd, that they ventured, his wife and Mary, to exchange glances full of doubt and wonder. He hung so much over the side of the chair, that if it had not been one of cyclopean clumsiness and weight, he would have borne it to the floor. A leaden tint was darkening the pallor of his face. They were becoming alarmed, and finally braving everything, his wife timidly said, "Tom!" and then more sharply repeated it, and finally cried the appellative loudly, and again and again, with the terrified accompaniment, "He's dying—he's dying," her voice rising to a scream, as she found that neither it nor her plucks and shaking of him by the shoulder had the slightest effect in recalling him from his torpor.

And now from sheer terror of a new kind the children added their shrill piping to the talk and cries of their seniors; and if anything could have called Tom up from his lethargy, it might have been the piercing chorus that made the rude chamber of the poacher's habitation ring again. But Tom continued unmoved, deaf and stirless.

His wife sent Mary down to the village, hardly a quarter of a mile away, to implore of the doctor, for whose family she did duty as laundress, to come down and look at her husband, who seemed to be dying.

The doctor, who was a good-natured fellow, arrived. With his hat still on, he looked at Tom, examined him, and when he found that the emetic he had brought with him, on conjecture from Mary's description, did not act, and that he felt a pulseless wrist, he shook his head, and inwardly thought:

"What the plague is the woman crying for? Could she have desired a greater blessing for her children and herself than the very thing that has happened?"

Tom, in fact, seemed quite gone. At his lips no breath was perceptible. The doctor could discover no pulse. His hands and feet were cold, and the chill was stealing up into his body.

The doctor, after a stay of twenty minutes, had buttoned up his great coat again and pulled down his hat, and told Mrs. Chuff that there was no use in his remaining there any longer, when all of a sudden, a little drop of blood began to strickle from the lancet cut in Tom's temple.

"That's very odd," said the doctor. "Let us wait a little."

I must describe now the sensation which Tom Chuff had experienced.

With his elbows on his knees, and his chin upon his hands, he was staring into the embers with his gin beside him when suddenly a swimming came in his head, he lost sight of the fire, and a sound like one stroke of a large church bell smote his brain.

Then he heard a confused humming, and the leaden weight of his head held him backward as he sank in his chair, and consciousness quite forsook him.

When he came to himself he felt chilled, and was leaning against a huge, leafless tree. The night was moonless, and when he looked up he thought he never had seen stars so large and bright, or sky so black. The stars, too seemed to blink down with longer intervals of darkness, and fiercer and more dazzling emergence, and something, he vaguely thought of the character of silent menace and fury.

He had a confused recollection of having come there, or rather of having been carried along, as if on men's shoulders, with a sort of rushing motion. But it was utterly indistinct; the imperfect recollection simply of a sensation. He had seen or heard nothing on his way.

He looked round. There was not a sign of a living creature near. And he began with a sense of awe to recognize the place.

The tree against which he had been leaning was one of the noble old beeches that surrounded, at irregular intervals, the churchyard of Shackleton, which spreads its green and wavy lap on the edge of the Moor of Catsteen, at the opposite of which stands the rude cottage in which he had just lost his consciousness. It was six miles or more across the moor to his habitation, and the black expanse lay before him, disappearing dismally in the darkness. So that, looking straight before him, sky and land blended together in an undistinguishable and awful blank.

There was a silence quite unnatural over the place. The distant murmur of the brook, which he knew so well, was dead, not a whisper in the leaves above him; the air, earth, everything about and above was indescribably still; and he had experienced that quaking of the heart that seemed to portend the approach of something awful. He would have set out upon his return across the moor, had he not an undefined presentiment that he was waylaid by something he dared not pass.

The old grey church and tower of Shackleton stood like a shadow in the rear. His eye had grown accustomed to the obscurity, and he could just trace its outline. There were no comforting associations, in his mind connected with it; nothing but menace and misgiving. His early training in his lawless calling was connected with this very spot. Here his father used to meet two other poachers, and bring his son, then but a boy, with him.

Under the church porch, towards morning, they used to divide the game they had taken, and take account of the sales they had made on the previous day, and make partition of the money and drink their gin. It was here he had taken his early lessons in drinking, cursing, and lawlessness. His father's grave was hardly eight steps from the spot where he stood. In his present state of awful dejection, no scene on earth could have so helped to heighten his fear.

There was one object close by which added to his gloom. About a yard away, in rear of the tree behind himself, and extending to his left, was an open grave, the mould and rubbish piled on the other side. At the head of this grave stood the beech-tree; its columnar stem rose like a huge monumental pillar. He knew every line and crease on its smooth surface. The initial letters of his own name, cut in its bark long ago, had spread and wrinkled like the grotesque capitals of a fanciful engraver, and now with a sinister significance overlooked the open grave, as if answering his mental question, "Who for is it's grave cut?"

He felt still a little stunned, and there was a faint tremor in his joints that disinclined him to exert himself; and, further, he had a vague apprehension that, take what direction he might, there was danger around him worse than that of staying where he was.

On a sudden the stars began to blink more fiercely, a faint, wild light overspread for a minute the bleak landscape, and he saw approaching from the moor a figure at a kind of a swinging trot, with now and then a sigag hop or two, such as men accustomed to cross such places make to avoid the patches of bog or quag that meet them here and there. This figure resembled his father's, and like him whistled through his fingers by way of signal as he approached; but the whistle sounded not now shrilly and sharp, as in old times, but immensely far away, and seemed to sing strangely through Tom's head. From habit or fear, in answer to the signal, Tom whistled as he used to do five-and-twenty years ago and more, although he was already chilled with an unearthly fear.

Like his father, too, the figure held up the bag that was in his left hand as he drew near, when it was his custom to call out to him what was in it. It did not reassure the watcher, you may be certain, when a shout, unnaturally faint, reached him, as the phantom dangled the bag in the air, and he heard, with a faint distinctness the words, "Tom Chuff's soul."

Scarcely fifty yards away from the low churchyard fence at which Tom was standing, there was a wider chasm in the peat, which there threw up a growth of reeds and bulrushes, among which, as the old poacher used to do on a sudden alarm, the approaching figure suddenly cast itself down.

From the same path of tall reeds, and rushes emerged instantaneously what he at first mistook for the same figure creeping on all fours, but what he soon perceived to be an enormous black dog, with a rough coat like a bear's, which at first sniffed about, and then started towards him in what seemed to be a sportive amble, bouncing this way and that, but as it drew near it displayed a pair of fearful eyes that glowed like live coals, and emitted from the monstrous expanse of its jaws a terrifying growl.

This beast seemed on the point of seizing him, and Tom recoiled in panic and fell into the open grave behind him. The edge which he caught as he tumbled gave way, and down he went, expecting almost at the same instant to reach the bottom. But never was such a fall! Bottomless seemed the abyss! Down, down, down, with immeasurable and still increasing speed, through utter darkness, with hair streaming straight upward, breathless he shot with a rush of air against him, the force of which whirled up his very arms, second after second, minute after minute, through the chasm downward he flew, the icy perspiration of horror covering his body, and suddenly, as he expected to be dashed into into annihilation, his descent was in an instant arrested with a tremendous shock, which, however, did not deprive him of consciousness even for a moment.

He looked about him. The place resembled a smoke-stained cavern or catacomb, the roof of which, except for a ribbed arch here and there faintly visible, was lost in darkness. From several rude passages, like the galleries of a gigantic mine, which opened from this centre chamber, was very dimly emitted a dull glow, as of charcoal, which was the only light by which he could imperfectly discern the objects immediately about him.

What seemed like a projecting piece the rock, at the corner of one of these murky entrances, moved on a sudden, and proved to be a human figure, that beckoned to him. He approached, and saw his father. He could barely recognize him, he was so monstrously altered.

"I've been looking for you, Tom. Welcome home, lad; come along to your place."

Tom's heart sank as he heard these words, which were spoken in a hollow, and he thought, derisive voice, that made him tremble. But he could not help accompanying the wicked spirit, who led him into a place, in passing which he heard, as it were from within the rock, dreadful cries and appeals for mercy.

"What is this?" said he.

"Never mind."

"Who are they?"

"New comers, like yourself, lad," answered his father emphatically. "They give over that work in time, finding it is no use."

"What shall I do?" said Tom, in an agony.

"It's all one."

"But what shall I do?" reiterated Tom, quivering in every joint and nerve.

"Grin and bear it, I suppose."

"For God's sake, if ever you cared for me, as I am your own child, let me out of this!"

"There's no way out."

"If there's a way in there's a way out, and for Heaven's sake let me out of this."

But the dreadful figure made no further answer, and glided backwards by his shoulder to the rear; and others appeared in view, each with a faint red halo round it, staring on him with frightful eyes, images, all in hideous variety, of eternal fury or derision. He was growing mad, it seemed, under the stare of so many eyes, increasing in number and growing closer every moment, and at the same time myriads and myriads of voices were calling him by his name, some far away, some near, some from one point, some from another, some from behind, close to his ears. These cries were increased in rapidity and multitude, and mingled with laughter, with fitting blasphemies, with broken insults and mockeries, succeeded and obliterated by others, before he could half catch their meaning.

All this time, in proportion to the rapidity and urgency of these dreadful sights and sounds, the epilepsy of terror was creeping up to his brain, and with a long and dreadful scream he lost consciousness.

When he recovered his senses, he found himself in a small stone chamber; vaulted above, and with a ponderous door. A single point of light in the wall, with a strange brilliancy illuminated this cell.

Seated opposite to him was a venerable man, with a snowy beard of immense length: an immense length; an image of awful purity and severity. He was dressed in a coarse robe, with three large keys suspended from his girdle. He might have filled one's idea of an ancient porter of a city gate—such spiritual cities, I should say, as John Bunyan loved to describe.

This old man's eyes were brilliant and awful, and fixed upon him as they were, Tom Chuff felt himself helplessly in his power. At length he spoke:

"The command is given to let you forth for one trial more. But if you are found again drinking with the drunken, and beating your fellow-servants, you shall return through the door by which you came, and go out no more."

With these words the old man took him by the wrist and led him through the first door, and then unlocking one that stood in the cavern outside, and struck Tom Chuff sharply on the shoulder, and the door shut behind him with a sound that boomed peal after peal of thunder near and far away, and all round above, till it rolled off gradually into silence. It was totally dark, but there was a fanning of fresh cool air that overpowered him. He felt that he was in the upper world again.

In a few minutes he began to hear voices which he knew, and first a faint point of light appeared before his eyes, and gradually he saw the flame of the candle, and, after that, the familiar faces of his wife and children, and he heard them faintly, when they spoke to him, although he was as yet unable to answer.

He also saw the doctor, like an issolated figure in the dark, and heard him say:

"There now, you have him back. He'll do, I think."

His first words, when he could speak, and saw clearly all about him, and felt the blood on his neck and shirt, were:

"Wife, forgive me, I'm a changed man. Send for'e sir."

Which last phrase means: "Send for the clergyman."

When the vicar came and entered the little bedroom where the scared poacher, whose soul had died within him, was lying still sick and weak, in his bed, and with a spirit that was prostrate with terror, Tom Chuff feebly beckoned the rest from the room, and the door being closed, the good parson heard the strange confession, and with equal amazement the man's earnest and agitated vows of amendment, and his helpless appeals to him for support and counsel.

These, of course, were kindly met, and the visits of the rector, for some time, were frequent.

One day when he took Tom Chuff's hand on bidding him good-bye, the sick man held it still, and said:

"Ye'r vicar o' Shackleton, sir, and if I sud doe, ye'll promise me a'e thing, as I a promised ye a many. I a said I'll never gie wife, nor barn, nor folk o' no sort, skelp nor sixzup more, and ye'll know o' me no more among the sippers. Nor never will Tom draw trigger, nor set a snare again, but in an honest way, and after that ye'll no more make it a bootless bene for me, but bein' as I say, vicar o' Shackleton, and able to do as ye list, ye'll no let them bury me within twenty good yerwands measure o' the a'd beech trees that's round the churchyard of Shackleton."

"I see, you would have your grave, when your time really comes, a good way from the place where lay the grave you dreamed of."

"That's jest it. I'd lie at the bottom o' a marlpit liefer! And I'd be laid in anither churchyard just to be shut o' my fear o' that, but that a' my kinsfolk is buried beyond in Shackleton, and ye'll gie me yer promise and no break yer word."

"I do promise, certainly. I'm not likely to outlive you; but if I should and still be vicar of Shackleton, you shall be buried somewhere as near the middle of the churchyard as we can find space."

"That'll do."

And so content, they parted.

The effect of the vision upon Tom Chuff was powerful, and promised to be lasting. With a sore effort he exchanged his life of desultory adventure and comparative idleness for one of regular industry. He gave up drinking; he was as kind as an originally surly nature would allow to his wife and family; he went to church; in fine weather they crossed the moor to Shackleton Church; the vicar said he came there to look at the scenery of his vision, and to fortify his good resolutions by the reminder.

Impressions upon the imagination, however, are but transitory, and a bad man acting under fear is not a free agent, his real character does not appear. But as the images of the imagination fade, and the action of fear abates, the essential qualities of the man reassert themselves.

So, after a time, Tom Chuff began to grow weary of his new life: he grew lazy, and people began to say that he was catching hares, and pursuing his old contraband way of life under the rose.

He came home one hard night, with signs of the bottle in his thick speech and violent temper. Next day he was sorry, or frightened, at all events repentant, and for a week or more, something of the old horror returned, and he was once more on his good behaviour. But in a little time came a relapse, and another repentance, and then a relapse again, and gradually the return of old habits and the flooding in of all his old way of life, with more violence and gloom in proportion as the man was alarmed and exasperated by the remembrance of his despised, but terrible, warning.

With the old life returned the misery of the cottage. The smiles which had begun to appear with the unwonted sunshine, were seen no more. Instead, returning to his poor wife's face the old pale and heart broken look. The cottage lost its neat and cheerful air, and the melancholy of neglect was visible. Sometimes at night were overheard, by a chance passerby, cries and sobs from that ill-omened dwelling. Tom Chuff was now often drunk, and not very often at home, except when he came in to sweep away his wife's earnings.

Tom had long lost sight of the honest old parson. There was shame mixed with his degradation. He had grace enough left when he saw the thin figure of "t' sir" walking along the road to turn out of his way to avoid meeting him. The clergyman shook his head, and sometimes groaned, when his name was mentioned. His horror and regret were more for the poor wife than for the relapsed sinner, for her case was pitiable indeed.

Her brother, Jack Everton, came over from Hexley, having heard stories of all this, determined to beat Tom, for his ill-treatment of his sister, within an inch of his life. Luckily, perhaps, for all concerned, Tom happened to be away on one of his long excursions, and poor Nell besought her brother, in extremity of terror, not to interpose between them. So he took his leave and went home muttering and sulky.

Now it happened a few months later, Nelly Chuff fell sick. She had been ailing, as heart-broken people do, for a good while. But now the end had come.

There was a coroner's inquest when she died, for the doctor had doubts as to whether a blow had not, at least, hastened her death. Nothing certain, however, came of the inquiry. Tom Chuff had left his home more than two days before his wife's death. He was absent upon his lawness business still when the coroner had held his quest.

Jack Everton came over from Hexley to attend the dismal obsequies of his sister. He was more incensed than ever with the wicked husband, who, one way or other had hastened Nelly's death. The inquest had closed early in the day. The husband had not appeared.

An occasional companion—perhaps I ought to say accomplice—of Chuff's happened to turn up. He had left him on the borders of Westmoreland, and said he would probably be home next day. But Everton affected not to believe it. Perhaps it was to Tom Chuff, he suggested, a secret satisfaction to crown the history of his bad married life with the scandal of his absence from the funeral of his neglected and abused wife.

Everton had taken on himself the direction of the melancholy preparations. He had ordered a grave to be opened for his sister beside her mother's, in Shackleton churchyard, at the other side of the moor. For the purpose, as I have said, of marking the callous neglect of her husband, he determined that the funeral should take place that night. His brother Dick had accompanied him, and they and his sister, with Mary and the children, and a couple of the neighbors, formed the humble cortege.

Jack Everton said he would wait behind, on the chance of Tom Chuff's coming in time, that he might tell him what had happened, and make him cross the moor with him to the funeral. His real object, I think, was to inflict upon the villian the drubbing he had so long wished to give him. Anyhow, he was resolved, by crossing the moor, to reach the church-yard in time to anticipate the arrival of the funeral, and have a few words with the vicar, clerk, and sexton, all old friends of his, for the parish of Shackleton was the place of his birth and early recollections.

But Tom Chuff did not appear at his house that night. In surly mood, and without a shilling in his pocket, he was making his way homeward. His bottle of gin, his last investment, half emptied, was, with its neck protruding, as usual on such returns, in his coat pocket.

His way home lay across the Moor of Catsteen, and the point at which he best knew the passage was from the church-yard of Shackleton. He vaulted the low wall that farms its boundary, and strode across the graves, and over many a flat, half-buried tombstone, toward the side of the churchyard next Catsteen Moor.

The old church of Shackleton and its tower rose, close at his right; like a black shadow against the sky. It was a moonless night, but clear. By this time he had reached the low boundary wall, at the other side, that overlooks the wide expanse of Catsteen Moor. He stood by one of the huge old beech trees, and leaned his back to its smooth trunk. Had he ever seen the sky look so black, and the stars shine out and blink so vividly? There was a death-like silence over the scene, like the hush that precedes thunder in sultry weather. The expause before him was lost in utter blackness. A strange quaking unnerved his heart. It was the sky and scenery of his vision! The same horror and misgiving! The same invincible fear of venturing from the spot where he stood. He would have prayed if he dared. His sinking heart demanded a restorative of some sort, and he grasped the bottle in his coat pocket. Turning to his left, as he did so, he saw the piled up mould of an open grave, that gaped with its head close to the base of the great tree against which he was leaning.

He stood aghast. His dream was returning and slowly enveloping him. Everything he saw was weaving itself into the texture of his vision. The chill of horror stole over him.

A faint whistle came shrill and clear over the moor, and he saw a figure approaching at a swinging trot, with a zig-zag course hopping now here and now there, as man do over a surface where one has need to choose his steps. Through the jungle of reeds and bulrushes in the foreground this figure advanced; and with the same unaccountable impulse that had coerced him in his dream, he answered the whistle of the advancing figure.

On that signal it directed its course straight toward him. It mounted the low wall, and, standing there, looked into the graveyard.

"Who made answer?" challenged the new comer, from his post of observation.

"Me," answered Tom.

"Who are you?" repeated the man upon the wall,

"Tom Chuff; and who's this grave cut for?" He answered in a savage tone, to cover the secret shudder of his panic.

"I'll tell you that, ye villain!" answered the stranger, descending from the wall. "I a' looked for you far and near, and waited long, and now you're found at last."

Not knowing what to make of the figure that advanced upon him, Tom Chuff recoiled, stumbled, and fell backward into the open grave. He caught at the sides as he fell, but without retarding his fall.

An hour after, when lights came with the coffin, the corpse of Tom Chuff was found at the bottom of the grave. He had fallen direct upon his head, and his neck was broken. His death must have been simultaneous with his fall. Thus far his dream was accomplished.

It was his brother-in-law who had crossed the moor and approached the churchyard of Shackleton, exactly in the line which the image of his father had seemed to take in his strange vision. Fortunately for Jack Everton, the sexton and clerk of Shackleton church were, unseen by him, crossing the churchyard toward the grave of Nelly Chuff, just as Tom the poacher stumbled and fell. Suspicion of direct violence would otherwise have been inevitably attached to the exasperated brother. As it was, the catastrophe was followed by no legal consequences.

The good vicar kept his word, and the grave of Tom Chuff is still pointed out by the old inhabitants of Shackleton, pretty nearly in the centre of the churchyard. This conscientious compliance with the entreaty of the panic-stricken man as to the place of his sepulture gave a horrible and mocking emphasis to the strange combination by which fate had defeated his precaution, and fixed the place of his death.

The story was for many a year, and we believe still is, told round many a cottage-hearth, and though it appeals to what many would term superstition, it yet sounded, in the ears of a rude and simple audience, a thrilling, and, let us hope, not altogether fruitless homily.

The Bewitched Clock.

About half-past 11 o'clock, on Saturday night, a human leg, enveloped in broadcloth, might have been seen entering Cephas Barberry's kitchen window. The leg was followed, finally, by the entire person of a lively Yankee, attired in his Sunday go-to-meeting clothes. It was, in short, Joe Mayweed, who thus burglariously, in the dead of night, won his way to the deacon's kitchen.

"Wonder how much the old deacon made by orderin' me not to darken his door again?" soliloquized the young man. "Promised him I wouldn't, but didn't say nothing about winders. Winders is just as good as doors, if there ain't no nails to tear your trowsers onto. Wonder if Sal'll come down? The critter promised me. I'm afraid to move here, 'cause I might break my shins over sumthin' or other, and wake the old folks. Cold enough to freeze a polar bear here. Oh, here comes Sally!"

The beautiful maiden descended with a pleasant smile, a tallow candle, and a box of matches.

After receiving a rapturous greeting, she made up a roaring fire in the cooking stove, and the happy couple sat down to enjoy the sweet interchange of views and hopes. But the course of true love ran no smoother in old Barberry's kitchen than it did elsewhere, and Joe, who was making up his mind to treat himself to a kiss, was startled by the voice of the deacon, her father, shouting from her chamber door:

"Sally, what are you getting up in the middle of the night for?"

"Tell him it's most morning," whispered Joe.

"I can't tell a fib," said Sally.

"I'll make it truth then," said Joe, and, running to the huge, old-fashioned clock that stood in the corner, he set it at five.

"It's five by the clock," answered Sally, and corroborating the words, the clock struck five.

The lovers sat down again and resumed the conversation. Suddenly the staircase began to creak.

"Good gracious! it's father."

"The deacon, by thunder!" cried Joe; "hide me Sal!"

"Where can I hide you!" cried the distracted girl.

"Oh, I know," said he, "I'll squeeze into the clock-case."

And, without another word, he concealed himself in the case, and drew the door behind him.

The deacon was dressed, and sitting himself down by the cooking stove, pulled out his pipe, lighted it, and commenced smoking very deliberately and calmly.

"Five o'clock, eh?" said he, "Well, I shall have time to smoke three or four pipes; then I'll go and feed the critters."

"Hadn't you better go and feed the critters first, sir, and smoke afterwards?" suggested the dutiful Sally.

"No; smokin' clears my head and wakes me up," answered the deacon, who seemed not a whit disposed to hurry his enjoyment.

Bur-r-r-r-r—whiz—z—ding! went the clock.

"Tormented lightning!" cried the deacon, starting up and dropping his pipe on the stove. "What in creation is that?"

"It's only the clock striking five," said Sally, tremulously.

Whiz! ding! ding! ding! went the old clock furiously.

"Powers of mercy!" cried the deacon. "Striking five! It's struck a hundred already."

"Deacon Barberry!" cried the deacon's better half, who had hastily robed herself, and now came plunging down the staircase in the wildest state of alarm. "What is the matter with the clock?"

"Goodness only knows," replied the old man.

"It's been in the family these hundred years, and never did I know it to carry on so before."

Whiz! bang! bang! bang! went the clock.

"It'll burst itself!" cried the old lady, shedding a flood of tears, "and there won't be nothing left of it."

"It's bewitched," said the deacon, who retained a leaven of New England superstition in his nature. "Anyhow," he said, after a pause, advancing resolutely toward the clock, "I'll see what's got into it."

"Oh, don't!" cried the daughter affectionately seizing one of his coat-tails while his faithful wife hung to the other.

"Don't!" chorussed both the women together.

"Let off my raiment!" shouted the deacon, "I ain't afraid of the powers of darkness."

But the women would not let go, so the deacon slipped off his coat, and while, from the sudden cessation of resistance, they fell heavied on the floor, he darted forward and laid his hand on the door of the clock-case. But no human power could open it, Joe was holding it inside with a death grasp. The deacon began to be dreadfully frightened. He gave one more tug, an unearthly yell, as of a fiend in distress, came from the inside, and the clock-case pitched head foremost on the floor, smashed its face, and wrecked its proportions.

The current of air extinguished the light, the deacon, the old lady, and Sally fled up stairs, and Joe Mayweed, extricating himself from the clock, effected his retreat in the same way that he entered. The next day all Appleton was alive with the story of how Deacon Barberry's clock had been bewitched; and though many believed its version, some, and especially Joe Mayweed, affected to discredit the whole affair, hinting that the deacon had been trying the experiment of tasting frozen cider, and that the vagaries of the clock-case only existed in a distempered imagination.

A Curious Temperance Story.

About a year since a gentleman, in business in this city, and largely interested in the cause of temperance, had occasion to visit England in one of the steamers of the Cunard line, and noticed on the first day out the midday distribution of grog to the forecastle hands, and found that but two of the seamen were temperance men. With their aid he instituted evening meetings, and every night staid late with the men, telling temperance anecdotes, singing songs of like character, etc. Toward the end of the voyage he prepared a pledge sheet, which twenty-four of the steamer's hands signed, including cooks, stewards, coal passers, etc.

On reaching the dock, entirely to the surprise of the signers, he presented each of them with a sovereign, which he requested they would deposit in a savings bank, that it might be a nucleus for future savings, and received a promise from each that they would write once a year to him, and state how they were keeping their pledge, and how the sovereign of each was increasing.

These letters have lately been received, and go to prove how much good may be accomplished by a person individually, if he works with his whole heart. Twenty of the signers write to say that they have kept their pledge, many of them inclosing certificates to that effect from temperance societies to which they belong.

Eighteen send proof that their sovereign is yet in the savings bank, and that it has been added to, in one instance to the extent of several pounds. Two, by reason of sickness, had drawn out and spent the original sovereign, but had since then deposited several shillings toward its renewal. One letter came from a sailor now serving in a British man-of-war, where he was daily laughed at for keeping his pledge, but which he nevertheless had kept, as was shown by a certificate enclosed from his superior officer.

Of the remaining four nothing has been heard; but the giver of the sovereign has not yet lost hope that he will speedily hear from them, as they may be now on service at distant parts of the world.—*N. Y. Evening Post.*

Science and Art.

Uses of Gun-Cotton.

When gun-cotton was discovered by Schoenbein, in 1846, great expectations were raised that it could be used for blasting and for military purposes, but owing to numerous accidents, it soon lost favor, and was scarcely used at all previous to 1862. In that year Baron von Lenk renewed the experiments with it, and finally succeeded in inventing a process by which it could be made available for artillery. He had it twisted into yarn, and applied it in that way. The English officers were not satisfied with the result of their experiments, and Professor Abel, of Woolwich, devised an improvement. He reduces the gun-cotton into pulp exactly the same as paper stock, and by the same machinery. After conversion into pyroxyline, the stock can be worked up into endless paper, and in this way made available for cartridges. The pulp may be diluted in strength by the admixture of pure cotton. Common cotton waste may be employed. It can be compressed, and is thus far safer, as it burns like tinder unless confined. It must be fired by detonation; and for this purpose a fuse had to be invented.

The compressed gun-cotton is equal to five or six times its weight of gun-powder, is cheaper, lighter, can be stored wet, and dried when required. It is said to be good for torpedoes, but is not good in confined spaces.

Silicate Paint and "Stone Zinc."

A French establishment has recently introduced into the trade two substances called *silicate paint* and *stone zinc*. The silicate paint is a combination of soluble glass with zinc white. This can be applied to wood, gypsum, cement, stone, tiles, and almost any of the metals except iron. It is superior to oil paint, in drying more quickly and becoming extremely hard. It does not peal off nor crack, and is without smell. It is as well suited for use in the interior of building as externally. The stone zinc is used to give the peculiar grain-like appearance of stone to wood and other surfaces. This is extremely durable when exposed to heat, cold and moisture. It has been used in coating the roofs of houses—and, being a bad conductor of heat, is useful in reducing the temperature of the subjacent rooms. In preparing the stone zinc, about equal parts of soluble glass end of the zinc powder are employed.

Petroleum as Fuel.

There is a fair prospect at last that crude petroleum can be used advantageously as fuel for steam boilers. The great difficulty hitherto has been the clogging up of the tubes used for feeding the flames by a deposit of solid carbonaceous matter. This obstacle has at last been removed, and there is a factory in Philadelphia which is running night and day with no other fuel. The fires have now been running six months continually. There is no smoke from this new fuel, no gas, and no trouble in feeding the furnaces; the engineer is also the fireman, as he has only to turn a stop-cock to increase or diminish his fire. Having no ashes to clean out, and being able to keep his engine room in order at all times, the smell of the burning oil is scarcely perceptible. This material for generating steam is likely to prove a great saving in large factories, as petroleum costs only about half as much as coal when used as fuel, with a very large saving in labor. It generates steam much more rapidly than coal, and with ordinary care is just as safe to use.

If it can be used on ocean and river steamers, much of the room required for coal can be devoted to stowing cargo, thereby materially increasing the profits of the voyage.

"Faced" Tea.

The detection and examination of the facing is simple, as its presence may be at once ascertained, by either examining the tea with a magnifying lens, or by simply washing it off by agitation with cold water. The determination of its nature after removal is accomplished by the usual processes of qualitative analysis, into which it is not our province in these popular articles to enter. We may, however, indicate the manner of detecting Prussian blue, because this "facing" is at once the most dangerous, and yet very easy to discover. Let the green tea be violently shaken up in a little bottle with some cold water, and the resulting fluid quickly poured into a wine glass to settle. The blue powder thus detached from the tea will subside, and the water having been carefully poured off, it will remain at the bottom of the glass. If a few drops of strong solution of washing soda be now added to the powder, it will change from blue to dirty brown, thus indicating the presence of Prussian blue.

Common Writing Ink.

The *Technologist* says: "In the recipes generally given for making ink, it is recommended to *boil* the ingredients. This is a very serious mistake. It should always be made with cold water. By this latter process, more time is of course necessary to make it; but then the ink is very superior, and entirely free from extractive matter which has no inky quality, and which only tends to clog the pen and to turn the ink ropy and mouldy. Take gall-nuts, broken, one pound; sulphate of iron, half a pound; gum accacia and sugar-candy, of each a quarter of a pound; water, three quarts. Place the whole of these ingredients in a vessel where they can be agitated once a day; after standing for a fortnight or three weeks, the ink is ready for use. Logwood and similar materials are often advised to be used in con,unction with the gall-nuts; but they serve no good purpose, unless it be to make a cheaper article, which fades rapidly."

Rain.

Mr. James Glassier, F. R. S., of England, in a recent lecture, said that the whole of the rain had its origin and fall 800 feet from the earth. Desiring to discover the influence of the moon on the elements, he found, after a long series of investigations, that on the ninth day of the moon there was much more rain than on any other day, and that on the first and last week of the moon there was the least amount. He had taken account, from 1815 to 1869, of every day on which there had been an inch of rainfall and he had found that on July 26, 1867, the rainfall amounted to three and seventeenth inches—the largest amount that had fallen in one day at the Royal Observatory. From careful observations made by him he had no doubt that the moon did exercise an influence upon rain. Another of his investigations was as to the time of day that rain fell most, and he had found that the largest quantity of rain fell at about 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

How New York is Lighted.

The streets of New York are lighted by 18,-017 gas burners, owned by the different companies as follows: Manhattan, 7,084; New York, 3,241; Harlem, 4,000; Metropolitan, 3,692. Each burner consumes three feet of gas per hour, and burns 3,833 hours and 20 minutes per year. The price paid the companies is $53 per annum for each lamp. Each lamp-post cost the city $20, and each lamp $4.50 to construct. The number of feet of gas burned per annum by the city in lighting the streets is 134,360,483; the cost of material is $441,416.50; the annual cost of gas is $954,-001. The Manhattan Co. has 200 miles of main pipe; the New York, 100; the Metropolitan, 95, and the Harlem, 98.

Purification of Tannin.

In order to free commercial tannin from the peculiar odor which it derives from a greenish colored resin, Deinx recommends to dissolve six parts of it in twelve parts of hot water in a porcelain mortar, to pour the fluid into a bottle, and after the addition of one half to one part of either, to shake it vigorously. The mixture appears cloudy and very greenish, but becomes clear after a few hours' standing, while the resinous coloring matter separates in flakes of coagulated albumen. The fluid is then filtered, and the filtrate evaporated to dryness. Tannin treated in this way is odorless, and forms in water a perfectly clear solution.

Rubber Tires for Car Wheels.

Mr. Robert Fairlie of London, has applied for a patent. "He forms the rim and tire of a railway engine or carriage wheel of considerable breadth to receive an india-rubber ring or tire, which must be of sufficient section to sustain the weight brought to bear on it. The metal tire the inventor forms with a small additional flange on the outer edge to keep the india-rubber tire on the wheel, the ordinary flange being provided at the inner edge to keep the wheel on the track. He makes the flange of considerably greater depth than usual."

A New Use for Soluble Glass.

Soluble glass has been successfully applied on bands of machinery to restore elasticity of polish, and is found to be better adapted for the purpose than gum arabic or similar substances. Experiments upon the leather straps of a spinning jenny proved entirely satisfactory, and as liquid quarts or soluble glass is now largely manufactured, a fair trial of it is worthy the attention of our machinists.

To Soften Hard Putty.

Break the putty in lumps the size of a hen's egg, add a small portion of linseed oil, and water sufficient to cover the putty; boil this in an iron vessel for about ten minutes, and stir it when hot. The oil will mix with the putty. Then pour the water off and it will be like fresh made.

Our Young Folks' Column.

Original contributions to "Our Young Folks' Column" are solicited from our correspondents.

ONLY A BOY.

Only a boy with his noise and fun,
The veriest mystery under the sun;
As brimful of mischief, and wit, and glee,
As ever a human frame can be,
And as hard to manage as—what? ah, me!
'Tis hard to tell,
Yet we loved him well.

Only a boy, with his fearful tread,
Who cannot be driven, must be led;
Who troubles the neighbors' dogs and cats,
And tears more clothes, and spoils more hats,
Loses more kites, and tops, and bats,
Than would stock a store
For a year or more.

Only a boy, with his wild, strange ways,
With his idle hours, or his busy days;
With his queer remarks, and his odd replies,
Sometimes foolish, and sometimes wise,
Often brilliant for one of his size,
As a meteor hurled
From the planet world.

Only a boy, who will be a man,
If nature goes on with her first great plan—
If intemperance, or some fatal snare,
Conspires not to rob us of this our heir,
Our blessing or curse, our rest, our care,
Our torment, or joy!
"Only a boy."

For Our Young Folks' Column.

Lorian's Visit to Grandma's.

Mrs. Miner was awakened one morning by feeling a little kiss on the tip of her nose. When she opened her eyes she saw her little son, Lorian, standing by her bedside, laughing. When he found that his mother was awake, he said:

"Why, mamma, I beeve oo are 'azy this mornin'. Lorie want oo to det up and det him some brefus; he's doin to see his dranma today."

His mother had never allowed him to go alone, although it was a straight path, and but short distance across the fields; but he had the promise of going to-day, alone, and he was going to carry his grandma something nice, too.

He felt that he was almost a man now, for he had a new pair of boots,